

からくりサーカス
18
藤田和日郎

小学館
SSC-5688

ISBN4-09-125688-0

C9979 ¥390E

9784091256881

定価：本体390円＋税

雑誌 45106-88　小学館

19299790039O6



世界に破滅をもたらす自動人形と、人形破壊者"しろがね"との決戦に、自動人形の本拠「真夜中のサーカス」は、血で赤く染まっていた。

果てしなく続く闘いの果てに、災いの元凶・フランシーヌ人形を、鳴海は破壊できるのか……!?ご存じ、超熱血機巧活劇、死闘に次ぐ死闘の第18巻であります。

Le Cirque de Karakuri

KAZUHIRO FUJITA PRESENTS

仕事場がらくりマンガ

新人洗礼

by つぶち かずひろ



※作者注　英に映画のタイトルです
ランボーは「3」までありません

プラネタリウムを見に行きました。
いいもんだなァ。ゆっくり安らぐなァ。
あれがベガか…あれがアルタイル…
サバラの夜もこれくらい星が見えるんだべかねー。…ナルミ達の夜はもう明けた頃だね。ナルミのピンチをまた始めなきゃな。
血を流さねば！　男の戦いはかくあるべしというような凄絶なヤツを…他の登場人物にもラクはさせるまい…よしよし…
はっ!?　アタシ何考えテタンデスカ?
おぉぉプラネタリウムまできてよおぉ。



藤田和日郎
KAZUHIRO FUJITA PRESENTS

ブカブカ　ドンドン。さぁさ御機嫌、お待ちかね。本巻もまた、盛りだくさんの演出をば、お届けいたしましょう。クランシータとルシールの絡められた関係に、ホサーカス、初のゆほタックの戦闘シーン。ナルミが他人には何歳に見えるか…なんてコトがちょろりと入りこむのは御愛敬。敵中心へと迫ぐき、戦いは新局面を迎えまする——「からくりサーカス」第18巻、鷹揚の御見物を願います。



●AD／伊波光司　●口ゴ&カバーデザイン／益子典子＋ベイブリッジ・スタジオ　●カバーイラスト／藤田和日郎


18
藤田和日郎
からくりサーカス
Le Cirque de Karakuri

★前巻までのあらすじ★

ついにたどり着いた自動人形の本拠「真夜中のサーカス」！

鳴海・ルシール・ミンシアの三人は、世界中からサハラ砂漠に集結した人形破壊者〝しろがね〟達と合流し、テントを包囲。

しろがねの使命は〝明日の真夜中までヤツらを足止めすること〟だが、フランシーヌ人形と最強の自動人形「最古の四人」が待ち受けるテントでは、地獄の舞台が用意されていた。

互いに20人ずつ選出し、5対5で戦って生き残りの数を競うゲーム。

しかし、しろがね一〇達のいとも簡単に命を投げ出して戦うさまに、驚きと怒りを感じる鳴海は、強敵相手に圧倒的な強さで勝利……!!

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■藤田和日郎■



Karakuri～Final Act

Act 11 Women





2

CLAP CLAP

OH HO ...

LOOKS LIKE HE PULLED IT OFF.

A SPLENDID ONE, AT THAT...

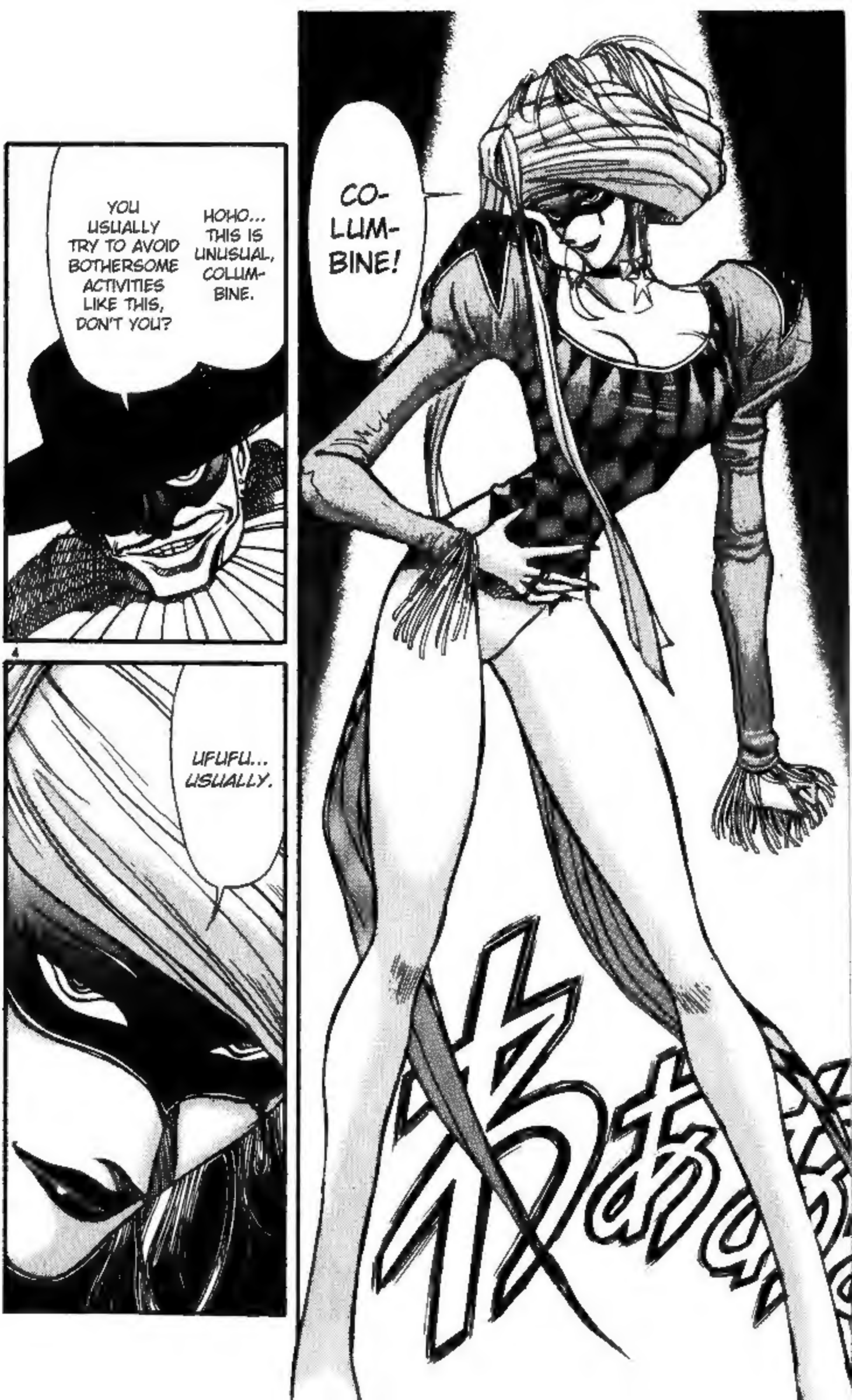
WELL, HOW ABOUT THAT. I GUESS THAT'S A WIN.

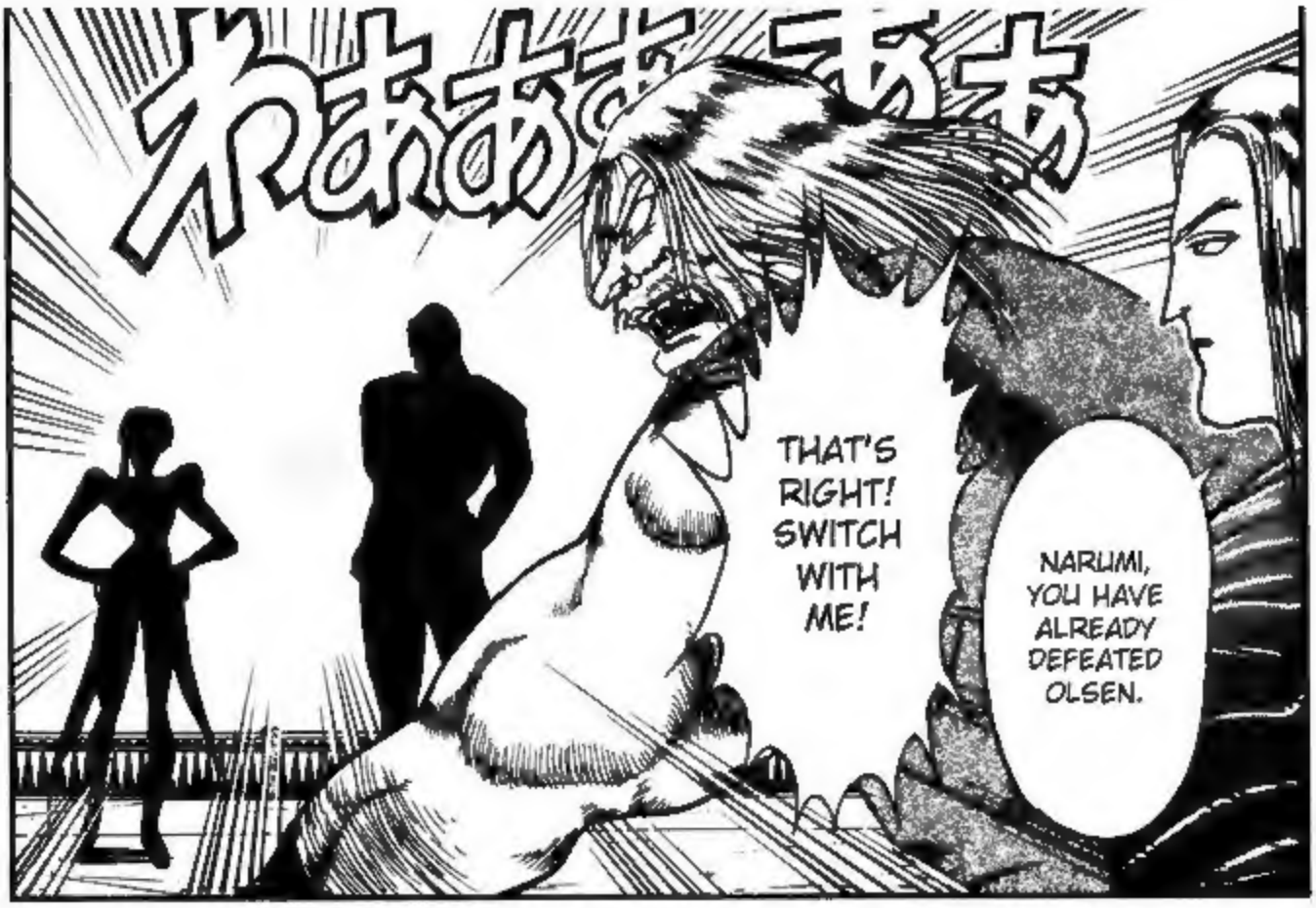

あ
あ
THE WINNER OF THE FIRST MATCH OF THE SECOND ROUND IS KATOU NARUMI, WHO HAS DEFEATED MERRY-GO-ROUND OLSEN...!!
BRAVO, NARUMI!


THAT'S RIGHT, DOTTORE. THE NEXT FIGHTER IS *ME*.


YEAH, WE GET THE IDEA.
WHO'S NEXT? HURRY UP AND SEND 'EM OUT.


OUR WONDERFUL OLSEN, WHO DEFEATED FIVE SHI-ROGANE IN SUCCESSION, HAS LOST TO A SINGLE SHIROGANE!


CO-
LUM-
BINE!
HOHO... THIS IS UNUSUAL, COLUM-BINE.
YOU USUALLY TRY TO AVOID BOTHERSOME ACTIVITIES LIKE THIS, DON'T YOU?
UFUFU... USUALLY.


NARUMI, YOU HAVE ALREADY DEFEATED OLSEN.
THAT'S RIGHT! SWITCH WITH ME!

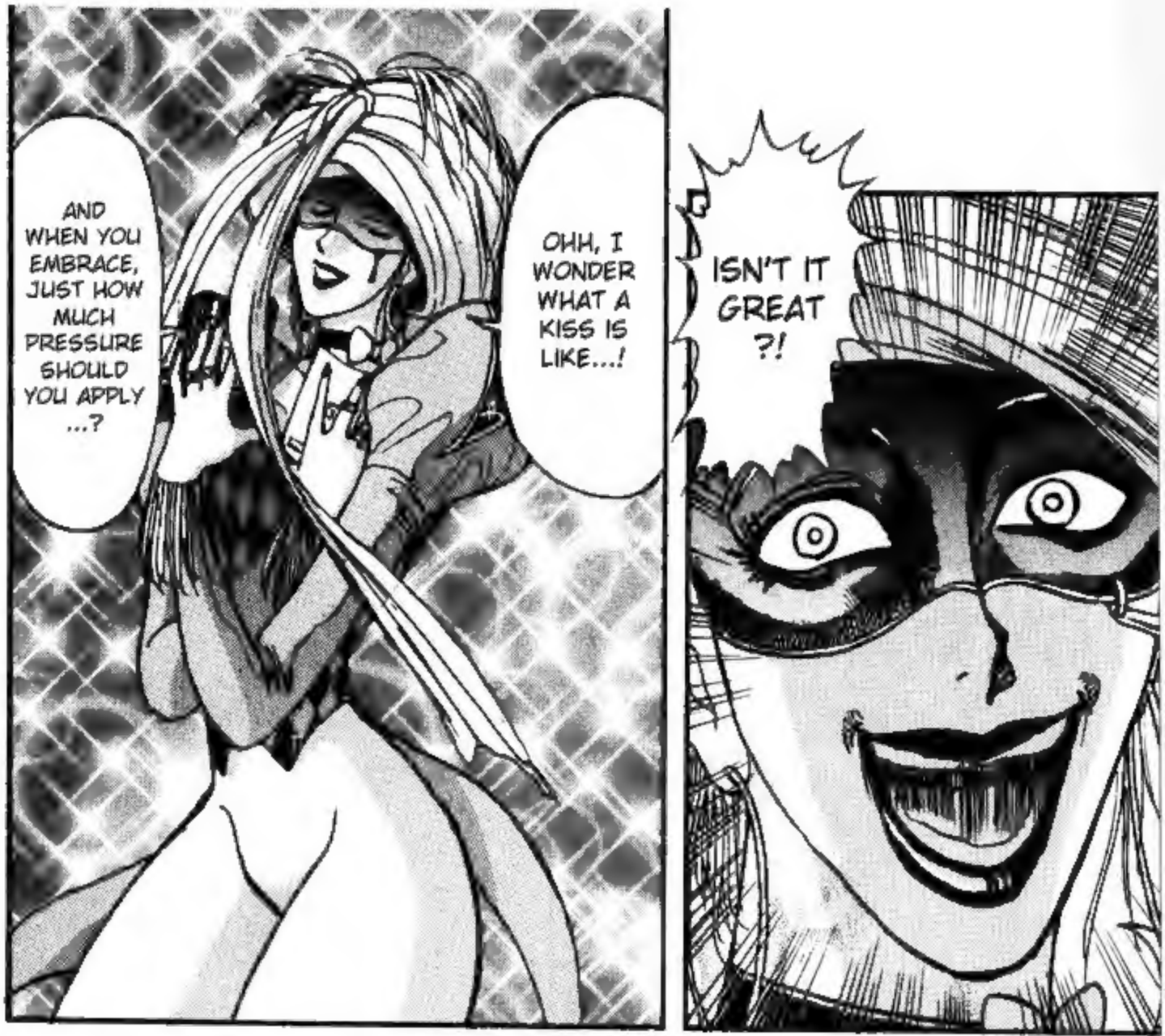

NO... I'LL HANDLE THIS.




NO ONE WOULD EVER TEAR THEM APART AGAIN ...
AS THE RAIN FELL AROUND THEM LIKE A WATERFALL, THE PAIR EMBRACED EACH OTHER TIGHTLY AND EXCHANGED A KISS.
HERE, LISTEN TO THIS.


I JUST ADORE THE ROMANCE NOVELS THAT YOU HUMANS WRITE.


YOU KNOW ...
THAT'S THE SPIRIT!


AND WHEN YOU EMBRACE, JUST HOW MUCH PRESSURE SHOULD YOU APPLY ...?
OHH, I WONDER WHAT A KISS IS LIKE...!
ISN'T IT GREAT ?!


I'VE TRIED IT OUT, BUT DOLL LIPS JUST GET ALL CRACKED AND FRACTURED.
OH, NO, IT DOESN'T WORK WITH BEINGS WHO CAN'T FEEL LOVE.
TCH... JUST GO PICK SOME DOLL TO DO IT WITH!


LET'S GO, AL-READY !
I DON'T KNOW! GOD!
ELIST


I AM A PERFECT AUTOMATON, BUT I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THINGS LIKE...
WARMTH, OR THE SENSATION OF SKIN... THAT'S A SLIGHT WEAKNESS, DON'T YOU THINK?


I'LL FINISH IT WITH ONE BLOW!
THIS COLLIM-BINE IS ONE OF LES QUATRE PION-NIERS.
7
CHOPPING FIST!


YOU'RE CALLED NARUMI, RIGHT?
LLLICK
I'VE TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.


YOU WERE AMAZING WHEN YOU BEAT OLSEN.
WHEN I SAW THAT, I THOUGHT... "IF I WERE TO BE *HELD* BY A HUMAN MAN, IT SHOULD BE THIS ONE."
IT DIDN'T ...
HAVE ANY EFFECT.


SAY, COME ON AND HUG ME! GIVE IT A TRY!
QUIT SCREWING AROUND!
ばっ


EVEN-TUALLY, THOUGH, LITTLE BY LITTLE ...!


THE COUPLE'S FIRST MEETING IS ALWAYS AWFUL IN ROMANCE NOVELS, TOO.
UFUFU! AMAZING, AMAZING!
WHO'D WANNA HUG YOU?!


BUT IF YOU TANGLE WITH ME...
YOU'LL DIE.


COLUM-BINE HAS BEEN DONE IN! THE WINNER IS NARUMI THE SHIRO-GANE!
しゃん

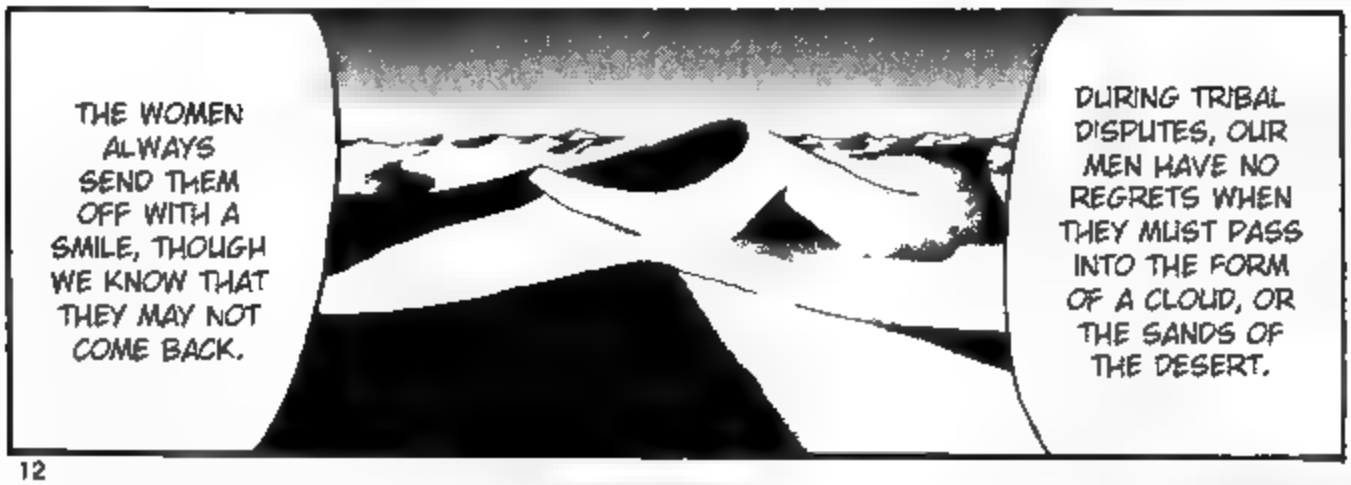

YOU IDIOT! WE'RE STILL FIGHTING, AREN'T WE?!


YOU'RE INCORRI-GIBLE, COLUM-BINE.


SO LONG!
UFUFU-FUFU.


...HEH HEH... WHAT'S UP WITH THAT DOLL ...?
SHE'S JUST... SCREWING AROUND...
YOU'RE COVERED WITH SWEAT.
YOU SHOULD DRY OFF, NARUMI.
HUH ...?
...I AM?
WHATEVER SHAPE THEY MAY HAVE HAD, YOU'VE FOUGHT TWO OPPONENTS.
ISN'T THAT ENOUGH FOR NOW?
.....
MR. NARUMI CERTAINLY IS A MYSTERIOUS PERSON.
YOU CAN LEAVE THE REST TO US.


I COME FROM A DESERT NATION.
I WAS BORN IN AN OASIS TO THE NORTH, AND RAISED IN AN OASIS TO THE SOUTH.
UFUFU
WHERE DO YOU SEE ANY MYSTERY IN THAT KENPO IDIOT ?!
HUH...?! YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT, FATIMA?


THE WOMEN ALWAYS SEND THEM OFF WITH A SMILE, THOUGH WE KNOW THAT THEY MAY NOT COME BACK.
DURING TRIBAL DISPUTES, OUR MEN HAVE NO REGRETS WHEN THEY MUST PASS INTO THE FORM OF A CLOUD, OR THE SANDS OF THE DESERT.

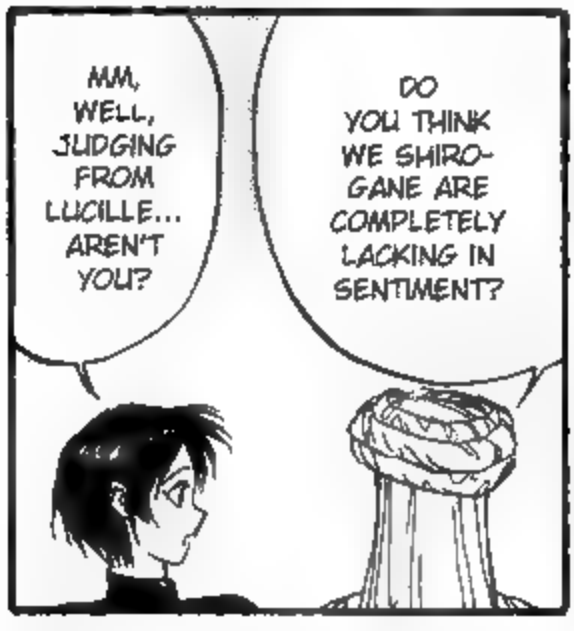

R-RIGHT.
MISS MING-XIA, YOU HAVE NOT BECOME A SHIROGANE, CORRECT?
SURE YOU'RE NOT IMAGI-NING IT?

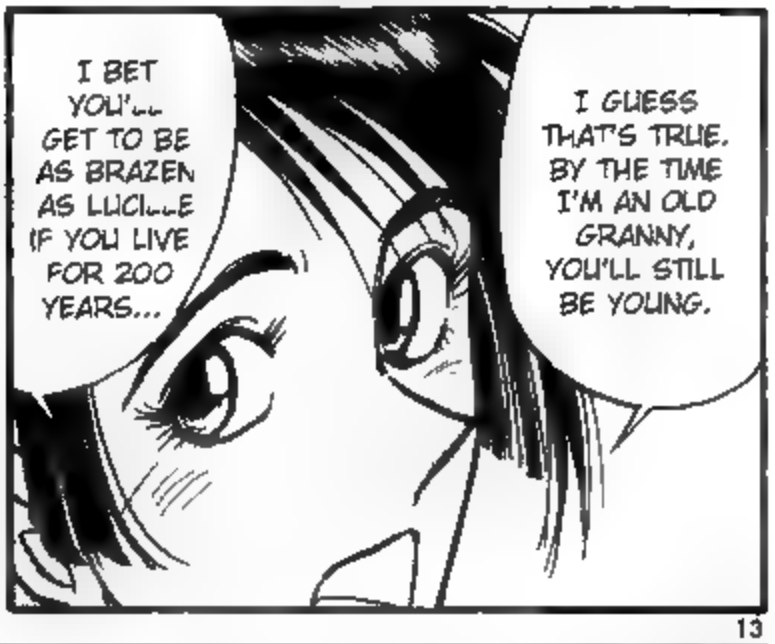

SOMEHOW, MR. NARUMI FEELS THE SAME...
AS THOSE MEN FROM MY TRIBE.


AMONG THEM SEVERAL MEN WHO TOLD ME THAT THEY WANTED TO SPEND THEIR LIVES WITH ME.


IN THAT TIME, THE ORDINARY MEN OF MY TRIBE HAVE EITHER GROWN OLD OR DIED.
FOR 35 YEARS, I HAVE BEEN PURSUING THE AUTOMATA AND DESTROYING THEM.


SHIROGANE, WHO AGE ONLY ONE YEAR FOR EVERY FIVE THEY LIVE ...
CAN NEVER WALK ALONGSIDE AN ORDINARY HUMAN AND SHARE THE SAME LIFE.
.....


DO YOU THINK WE SHIROGANE ARE COMPLETELY LACKING IN SENTIMENT?
MM, WELL, JUDGING FROM LUCILLE... AREN'T YOU?

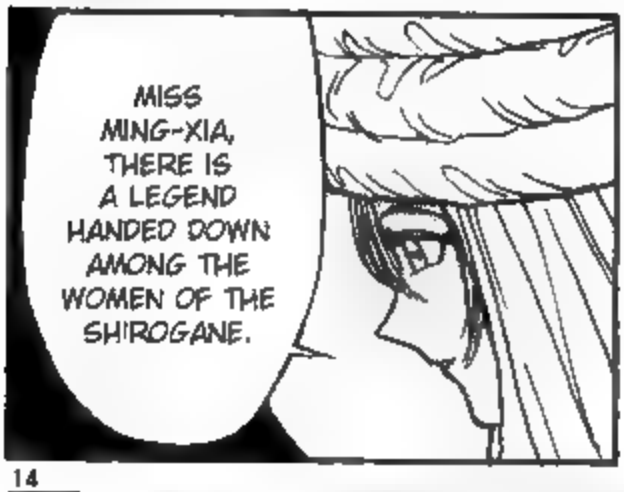

I GUESS THAT'S TRUE. BY THE TIME I'M AN OLD GRANNY, YOU'LL STILL BE YOUNG.
I BET YOU'LL GET TO BE AS BRAZEN AS LUCILLE IF YOU LIVE FOR 200 YEARS...

13


...WE STILL... HAVE HEARTS.
THERE ARE SOME WHO GIVE UP...
AND OTHERS WHO BURY THEMSELVES IN THEIR MISSION TO DESTROY THE DOLLS...

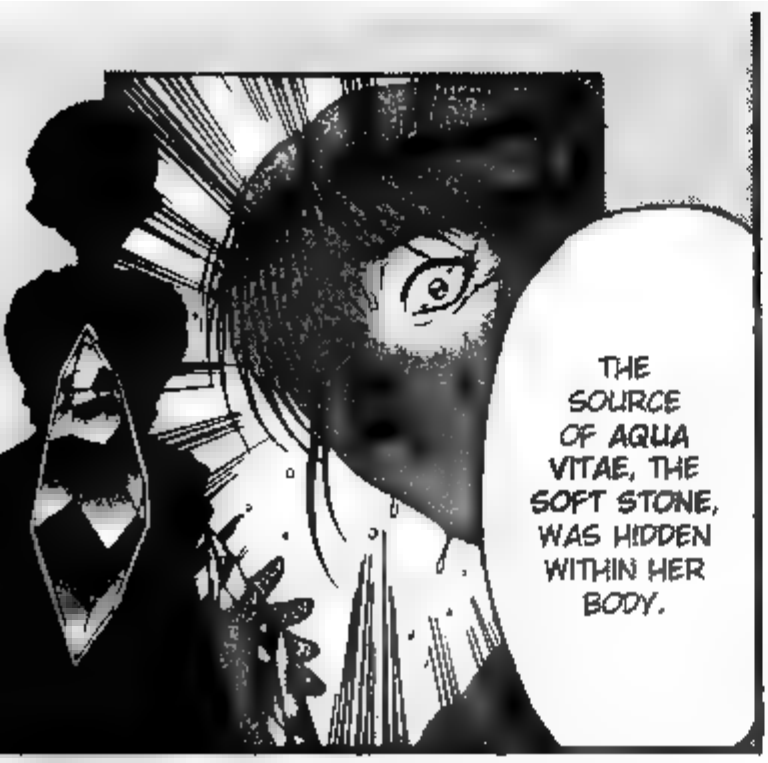

A... PARTNER ...? YOU MEAN YOU WANT MING-HAI TO...?

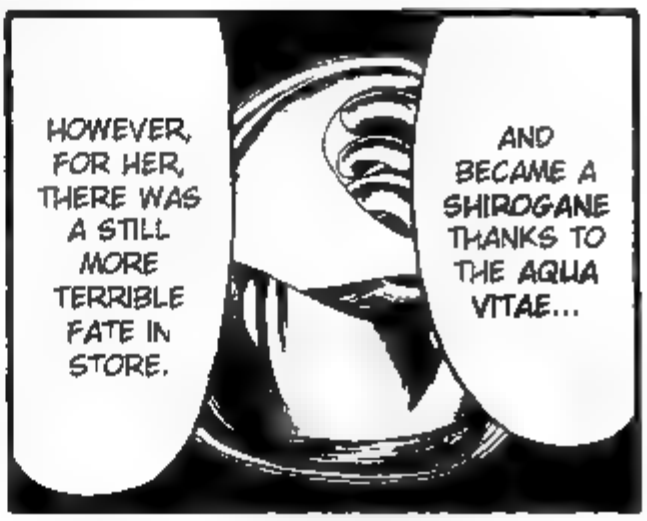

BUT STILL, SOMEWHERE IN OUR HEARTS, I BELIEVE WE ALL WISH FOR A PARTNER ... TO WALK WITH US THROUGH LIFE.


MISS MING-XIA, THERE IS A LEGEND HANDED DOWN AMONG THE WOMEN OF THE SHIROGANE.

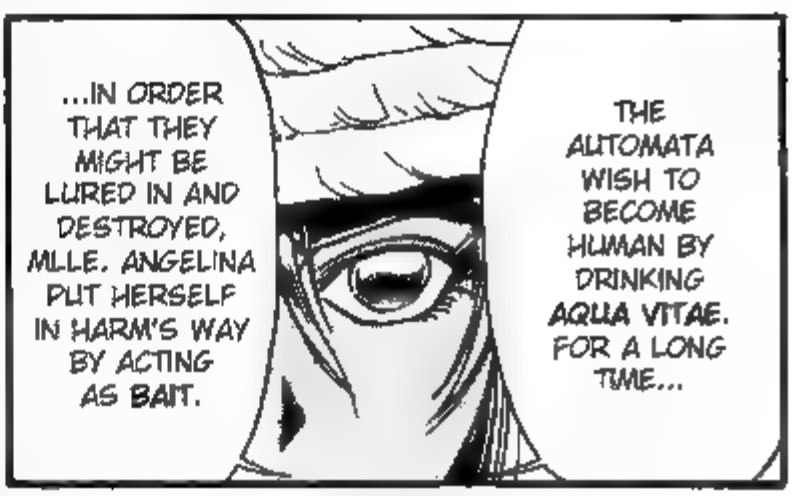

LONG, LONG AGO, SHE CONTRACTED ZONAPHA SYNDROME ALONG WITH MADAME LUCILLE
LUCILLE'S DAUGHTER...?


MADEMOISELLE ANGELINA.
THE LEGEND OF MADAME LUCILLE'S DAUGHTER ...


THE SOURCE OF AQUA VITAE, THE SOFT STONE, WAS HIDDEN WITHIN HER BODY.

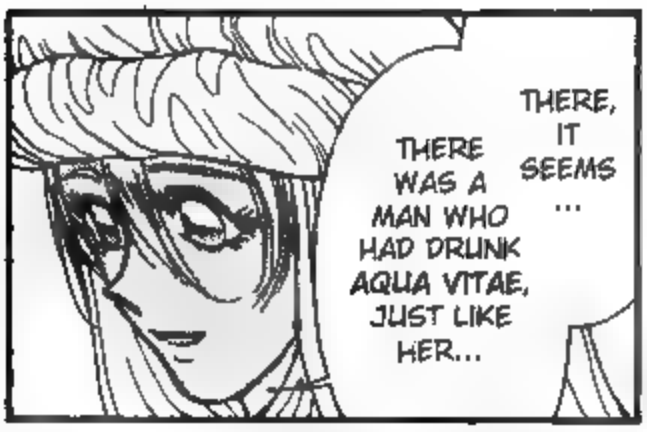

AND BECAME A SHIROGANE THANKS TO THE AQUA VITAE...
HOWEVER, FOR HER, THERE WAS A STILL MORE TERRIBLE FATE IN STORE.


YES. IN A SMALL ISLAND NATION CALLED JAPAN.


THE AUTOMATA WISH TO BECOME HUMAN BY DRINKING AQUA VITAE. FOR A LONG TIME...
...IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT BE LURED IN AND DESTROYED, MLLE. ANGELINA PUT HERSELF IN HARM'S WAY BY ACTING AS BAIT.


HOW-EVER, ONE DAY, SHE VANISHED.
HUH...? WHY?
NO ONE KNOWS. BUT, WHILE I AM NOT PRIVY TO THE DETAILS ...


ABOUT 30 YEARS LATER, MLLE. ANGELINA'S LOCATION WAS DIS-COVERED.
OH ...
SO THEY FOUND HER!


THERE, IT SEEMS ...
THERE WAS A MAN WHO HAD DRUNK AQUA VITAE, JUST LIKE HER...

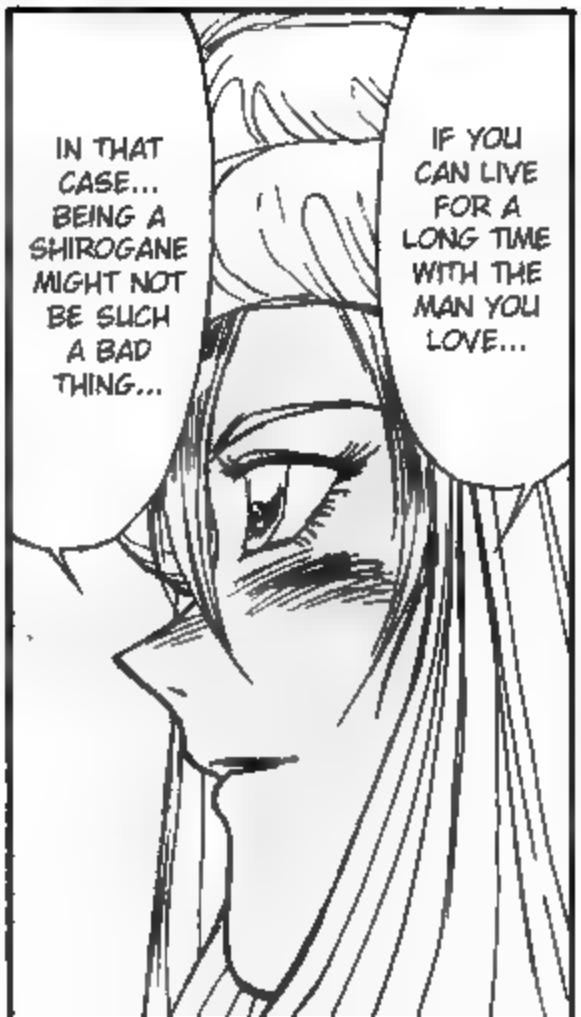

MING-HAI'S COUNTRY ...
JAPAN ...


AND SHE HAD MARRIED HIM.

16


YOU'VE GOTTA GIVE IT UP! HE'S GOT NO BRAINS! HE'S GOT NO MONEY ...!!
SO YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH MING-HAI?


OH... I SHOULD HAVE ASKED THIS FIRST.

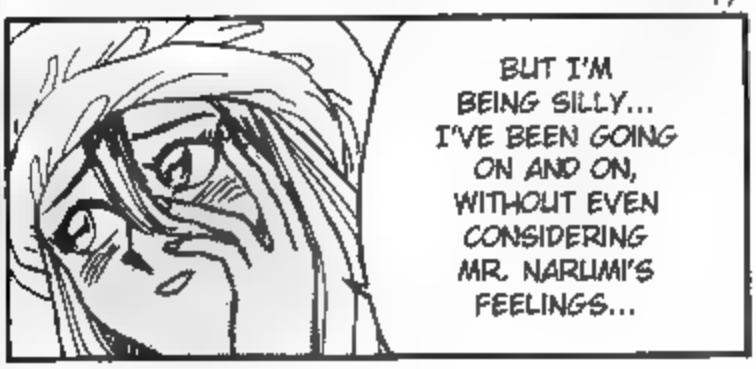

IN THAT CASE... BEING A SHIROGANE MIGHT NOT BE SUCH A BAD THING...
IF YOU CAN LIVE FOR A LONG TIME WITH THE MAN YOU LOVE...


WOW, GOOD FOR HER ...!
YOU KNOW, MISS MING-XIA, I ADMIRE HER VERY MUCH.


MISS MING-XIA...
WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS FOR MR. NARUMI?


OH...! D-DO YOU REALLY THINK SO?
HE'S SURE TO FALL HEAD OVER HEELS FOR YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! YOU'RE TOTALLY CUTE, FATIMA!!


IS THAT SO...!
NOTHING MUCH... HE'S LIKE A TROUBLE-SOME LITTLE BROTHER, I GUESS ...
.....


BUT I'M BEING SILLY... I'VE BEEN GOING ON AND ON, WITHOUT EVEN CONSIDERING MR. NARUMI'S FEELINGS...


YES
IT MUST BE
OH, LOOK THAT'S GOTTA BE WHERE LUCILLE IS, RIGHT?
OF COURSE. ALTHOUGH I CAN'T SAY I'M CHEERING YOU ON.


YES
ALMENDRA, ARE YOU SURE OF WHAT YOU JUST SAID?
IT SEEMS OUR GUESTS ARE HERE, LUCILLE


A WOMAN OF YOUR BLOOD, LUCILLE.
THE HUMAN GIRL WHO SERVED AS THE MODEL FOR THE DOLL FRANCINE
SHE WAS BORN

translation by funnuraba tumblr com

pg 15: The word Columbine uses for holding or embracing (抱かれる) can also mean having sex with
pg 16 Likewise the word やる which has been used a lot for the past few chapters can mean to do something, to kill/harm/defeat someone, or to have sex with someone In this chapter it starts to take on a double meaning Basically what she's saying in Japanese (私とやったら, あなた死んじゃうよ) is, "If you have sex with me/try to kill me you'll die "

These scanlations have been uploaded *only* to Batoto so that I can remove them if the series is ever licensed Please read them there instead of on websites that rip them and watermark them to make a profit off your views!

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves



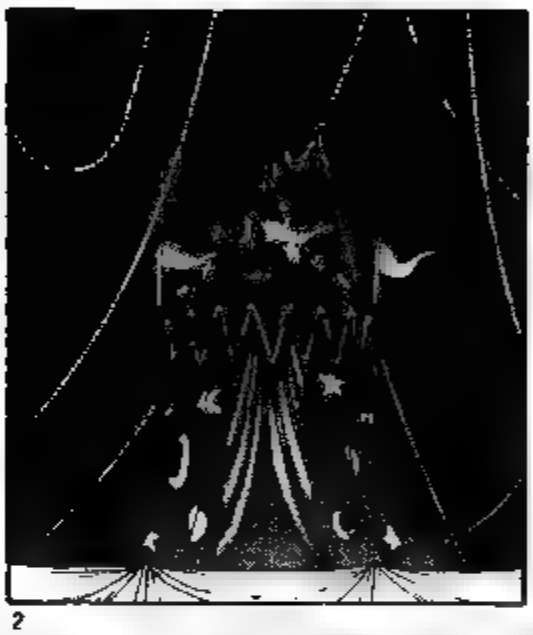




Act 12
Women's Blood




ゴゥン ゴゥン





2


BECAME A SHIROGANE BACK THEN, ALONG WITH YOU ...
REMEMBER, I ALSO ...
COME, NOW, WON'T YOU REMINISCE WITH ME, LUCILLE?
...AND WHAT OF IT?


WE FOUGHT ...
FILLED WITH THE DESIRE FOR REVENGE AGAINST THE DOLLS WHO KILLED OUR FAMILIES AND SPREAD THAT INCURABLE DISEASE.

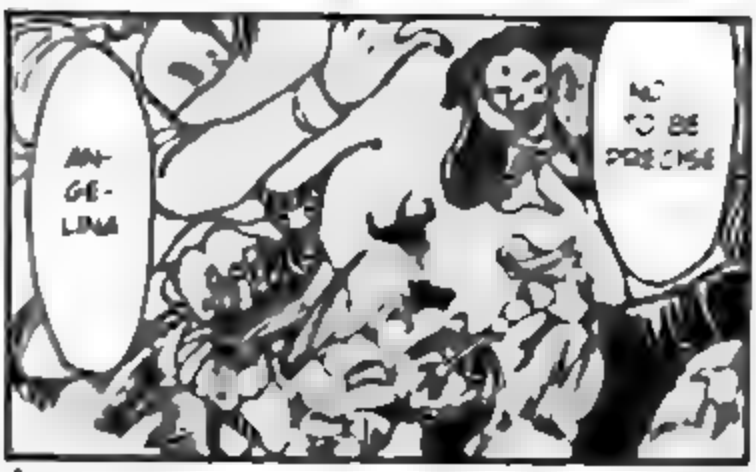

AND WHEN WE DID SO, WE NEARLY ALWAYS AMBUSHED THE DOLLS ...
WE HAD A CERTAIN SOMETHING THAT THE DOLLS CAME AFTER, OVER AND OVER.

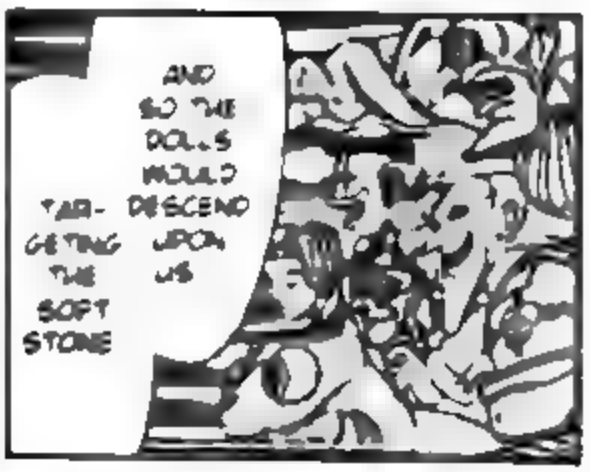

A CERTAIN SOMETHING ...
YOU MEAN THE SOFT STONE.


AQUA VITAE WAS USED ON THE DOLLS' MISTRESS, THE DOLL FRANCINE.

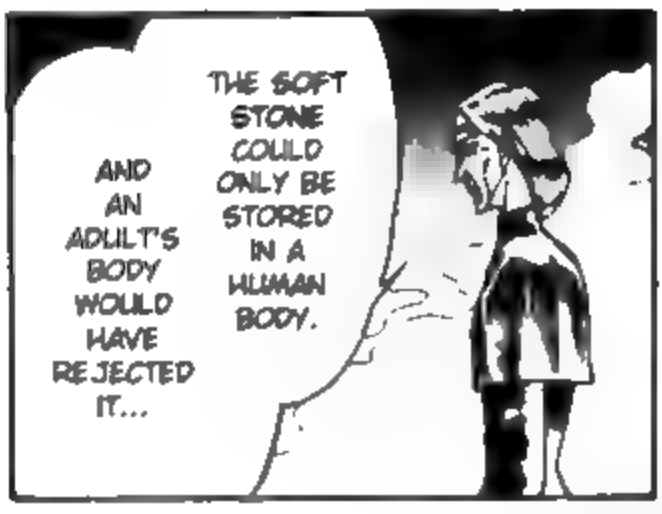

YES, THE STONE THAT PRODUCES AQUA VITAE, THE ALL-HEALING ELIXIR THAT SAVED US FROM ZONAPHA SYNDROME ...
ONLY ONE SOFT STONE EXISTS IN THIS WORLD ...


THEY WOULD UNDER-STAND HER HEART AND BE ABLE TO MAKE HER LAUGH
AND BECOME THE SAME AS THEIR LADY FRANCINE
MAKING THE DOLL FRANCINE LAUGH IS THE R REASON FOR EXISTING THEY BELIEVED THAT IF THEY WERE TO DRINK AQUA VITAE AS WELL


AN-GE-LINA
NO TO BE PRECISE

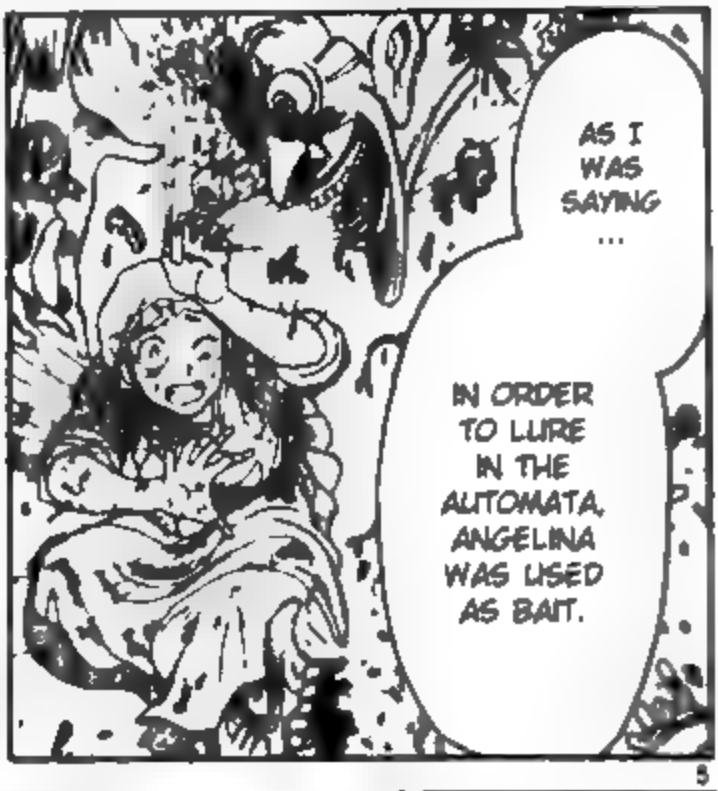

AND SO THE DOLLS WOULD DESCEND UPON US
TAR-GETING THE SOFT STONE


WAS WHAT THEY WERE AFTER
THE SOFT STONE'S CON-TAINER ...


THE SOFT STONE COULD ONLY BE STORED IN A HUMAN BODY.
AND AN ADULT'S BODY WOULD HAVE REJECTED IT...


IT WAS A TRULY CRUEL THING ...
EMBEDDING THE SOFT STONE IN YOUNG ANGELINA'S BODY.


IT WAS ALL FOR THE SAKE OF PROTECTING HUMANITY FROM THE DOLLS... ONE MIGHT JUSTIFY IT THAT WAY.
AND YET, WASN'T WHAT WE DID... AN UNPARDONABLE THING? ...IT WAS THE ACT OF DEMONS.


AS I WAS SAYING ...
IN ORDER TO LURE IN THE AUTOMATA, ANGELINA WAS USED AS BAIT.

5




SHE HERSELF UNDERSTOOD WHAT HAD TO BE DONE

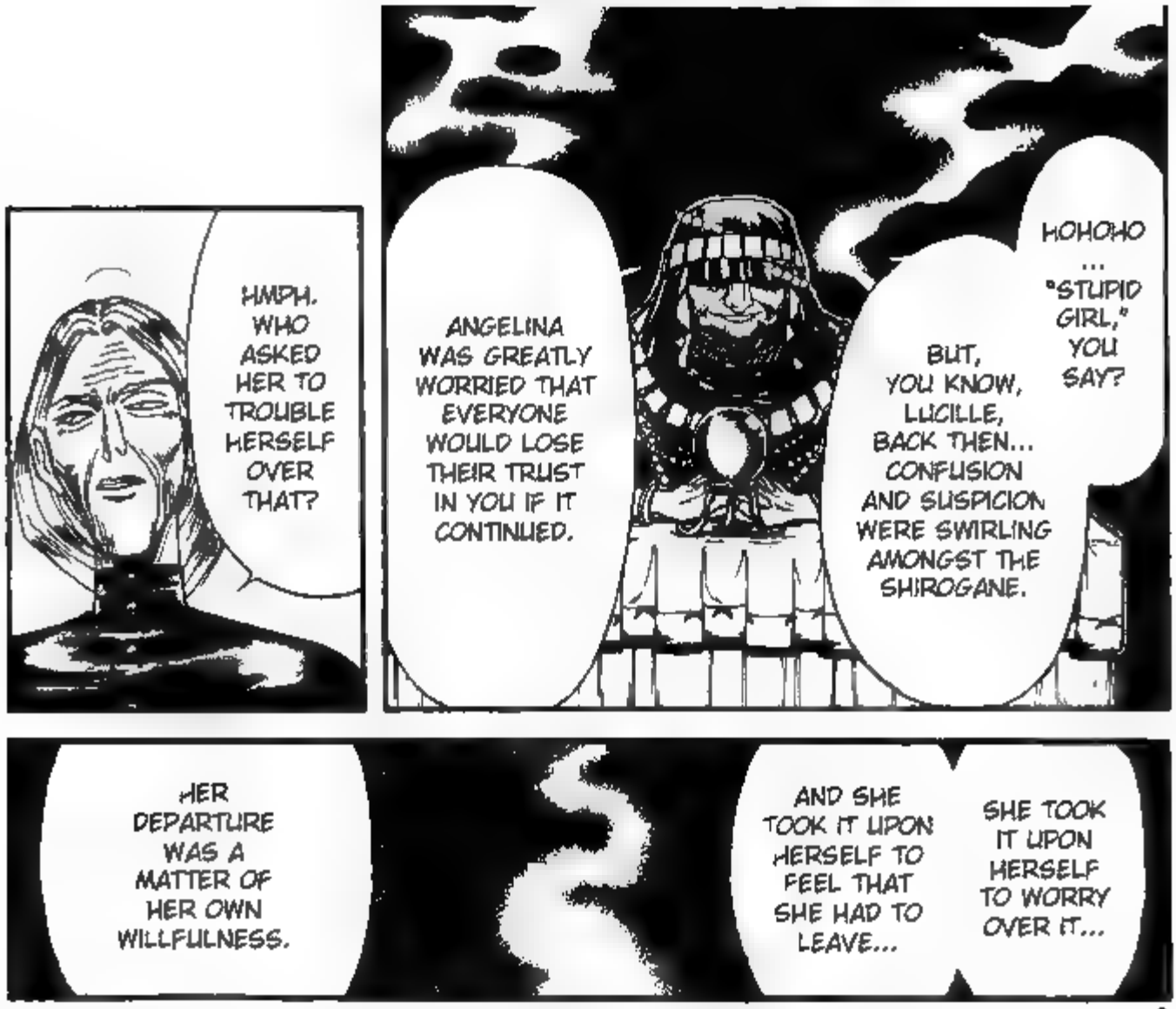

YOU, HER MOTHER, IN PARTICULAR... WHEN WE DIE, I DOUBT WE WILL PASS THROUGH THE GATES OF HEAVEN.

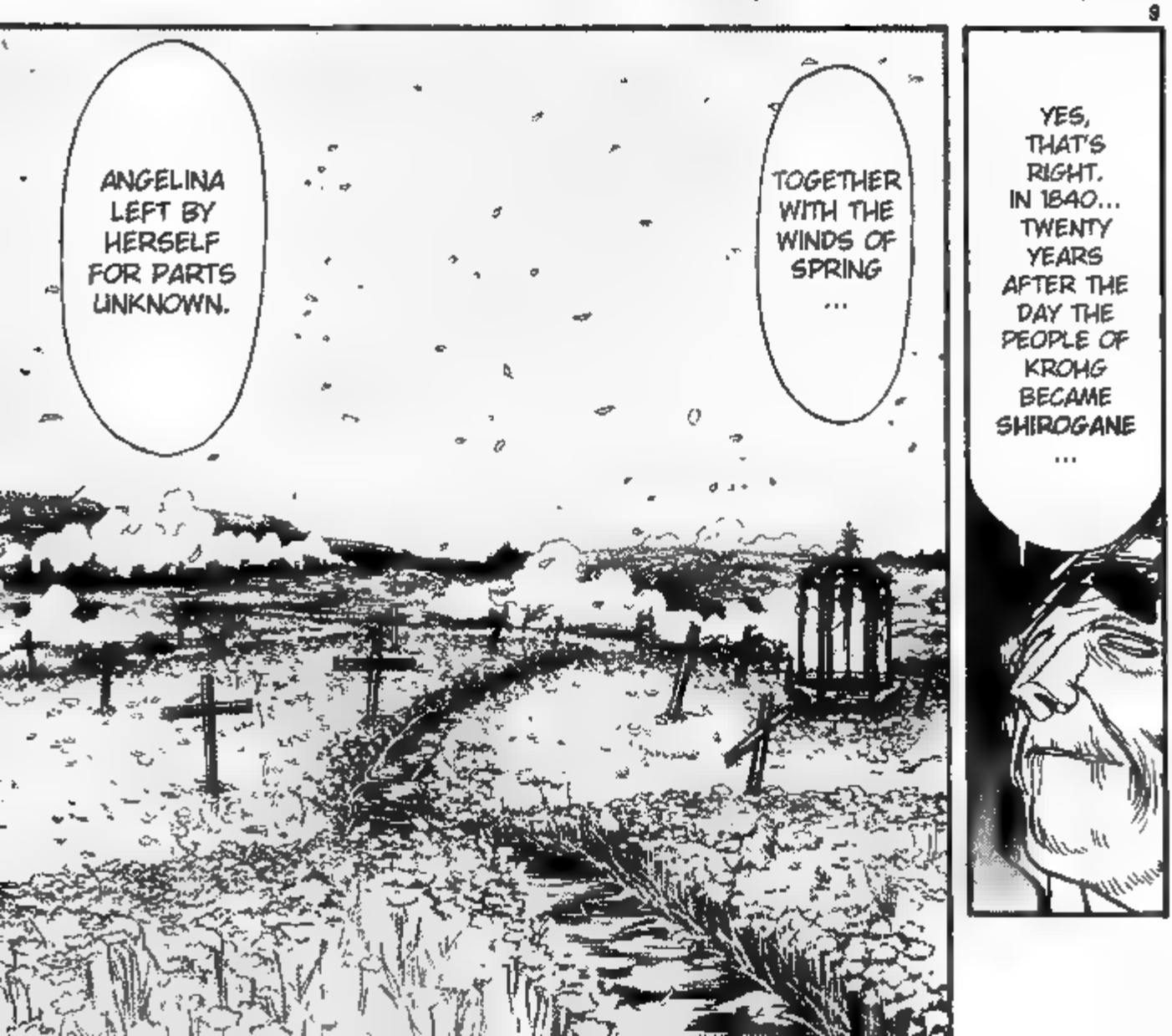

...IF ANGELINA'S CURSED DATE
HOWEVER THAT WAS NOT THE END...


OVER HERE, AUTO-MATA!
YES... ANGELINA HAD BEGUN TO RESEMBLE THE DOLL FRANCINE...
THE SOFT STONE IS RIGHT HERE!

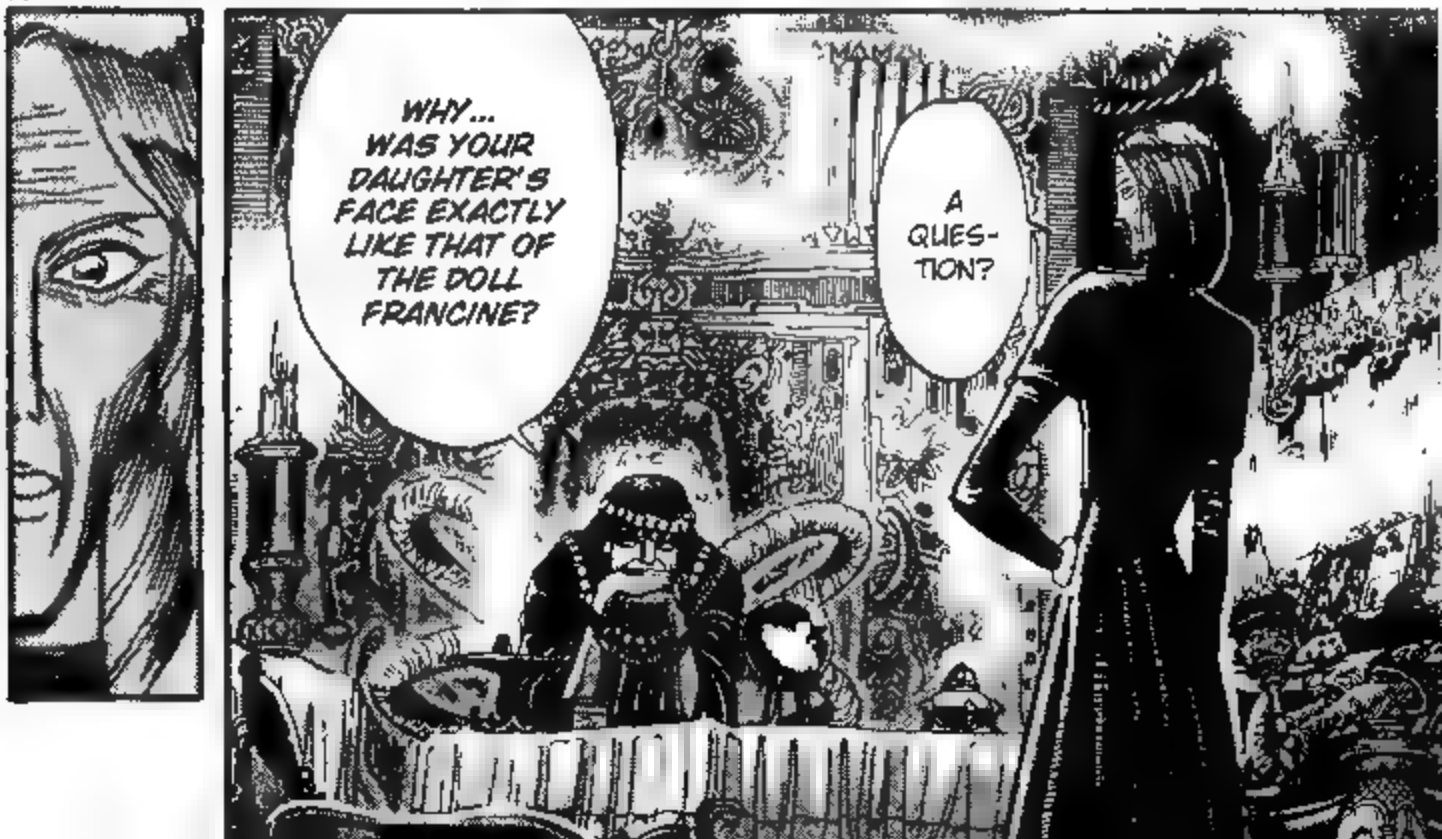

SHE WAS LIKE TWO PEAS IN A POD WITH, OF ALL PEOPLE, THE LEADER OF THE AUTOMATA WE SO DETESTED ...
IT WAS NO MERE RESEMBLANCE
ANGELINA, GROWN INTO A BEAUTIFUL 17 YEAR OLD GIRL, HAD BEEN GIVEN STILL MORE CRUEL HARDSHIP BY THE FATES
THAT STUPID GIRL...
THERE WAS NO NEED TO WORRY OVER IT.
HMPH. IT WAS JUST SOME KIND OF CO-INCI-DENCE.


LUCILLE ...
LUCILLE

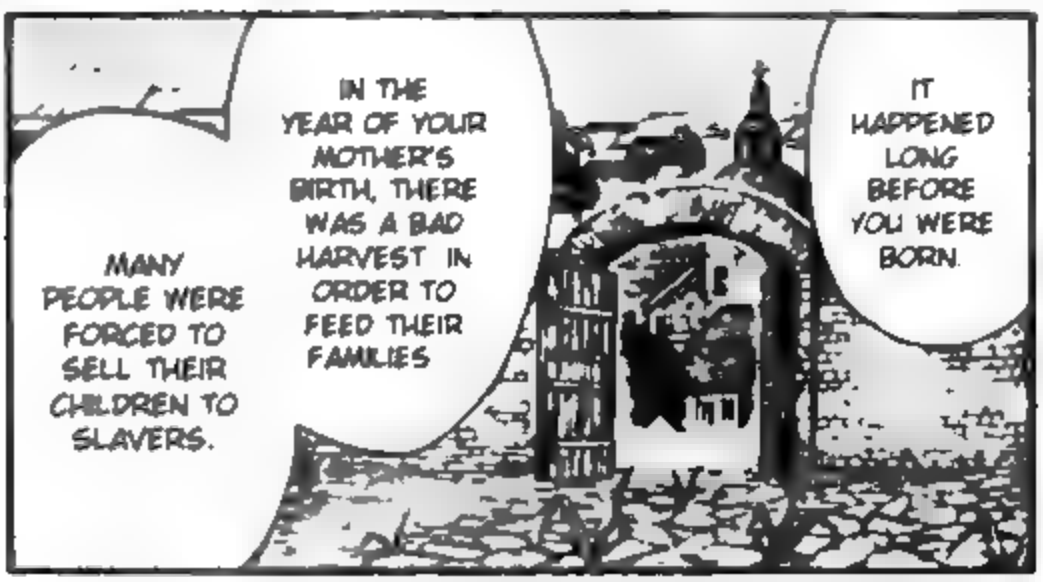

HMPH. WHO ASKED HER TO TROUBLE HERSELF OVER THAT?
ANGELINA WAS GREATLY WORRIED THAT EVERYONE WOULD LOSE THEIR TRUST IN YOU IF IT CONTINUED.
BUT, YOU KNOW, LUCILLE, BACK THEN... CONFUSION AND SUSPICION WERE SWIRLING AMONGST THE SHIROGANE.
HOHOHO ... "STUPID GIRL," YOU SAY?
HER DEPARTURE WAS A MATTER OF HER OWN WILLFULNESS.
AND SHE TOOK IT UPON HERSELF TO FEEL THAT SHE HAD TO LEAVE...
SHE TOOK IT UPON HERSELF TO WORRY OVER IT...


ANGELINA LEFT BY HERSELF FOR PARTS UNKNOWN.
TOGETHER WITH THE WINDS OF SPRING ...
YES, THAT'S RIGHT. IN 1840... TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE DAY THE PEOPLE OF KROHG BECAME SHIROGANE ...


ALMENDRA, YOU DIDN'T MENTION MY DAUGHTER WITHOUT SOME SORT OF REASON ...
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TELL ME?
HOW MUCH TROUBLE HAVE WE BEEN PUT THROUGH SINCE THEN, TRYING TO KEEP THE DOLLS FROM LEARNING THAT THE SOFT STONE IS LOST...? HONESTLY...
INCLUDING THE STORY OF THEIR GODDESS, THE DOLL FRANCINE.
WITH MY EYES CLOSED, I HEAR MANY THINGS WHISPERED BETWEEN THE DOLLS.
HERE IN THE MIDNIGHT CIRCUS, I PLAY THE PART OF THE BLIND FORTUNE-TELLER.
TO MARK THE OCCASION, I WILL GIVE YOU THE ANSWER TO A SHORT QUESTION.
I DOUBT WE WILL MEET AGAIN.
OLD FRIEND... WE HAVE NOT MET FOR MANY YEARS.
LUCILLE ...

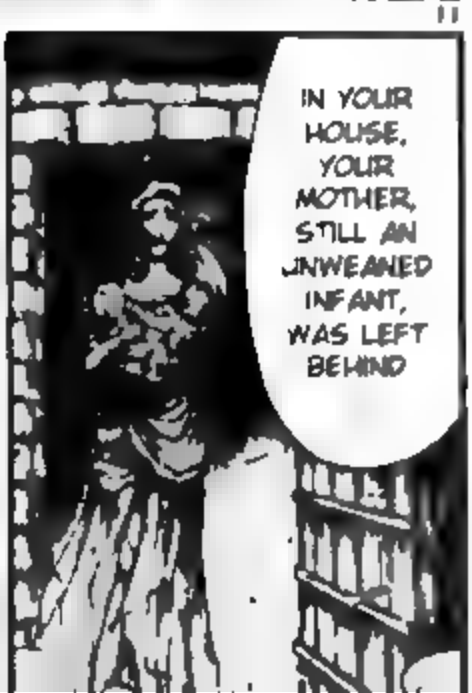

WHY... WAS YOUR DAUGHTER'S FACE EXACTLY LIKE THAT OF THE DOLL FRANCINE?
A QUES-TION?


HAD AN AUNT BY THE NAME OF FRANCINE.
ANS-WER: ...
BECAUSE YOU, LUCILLE ...

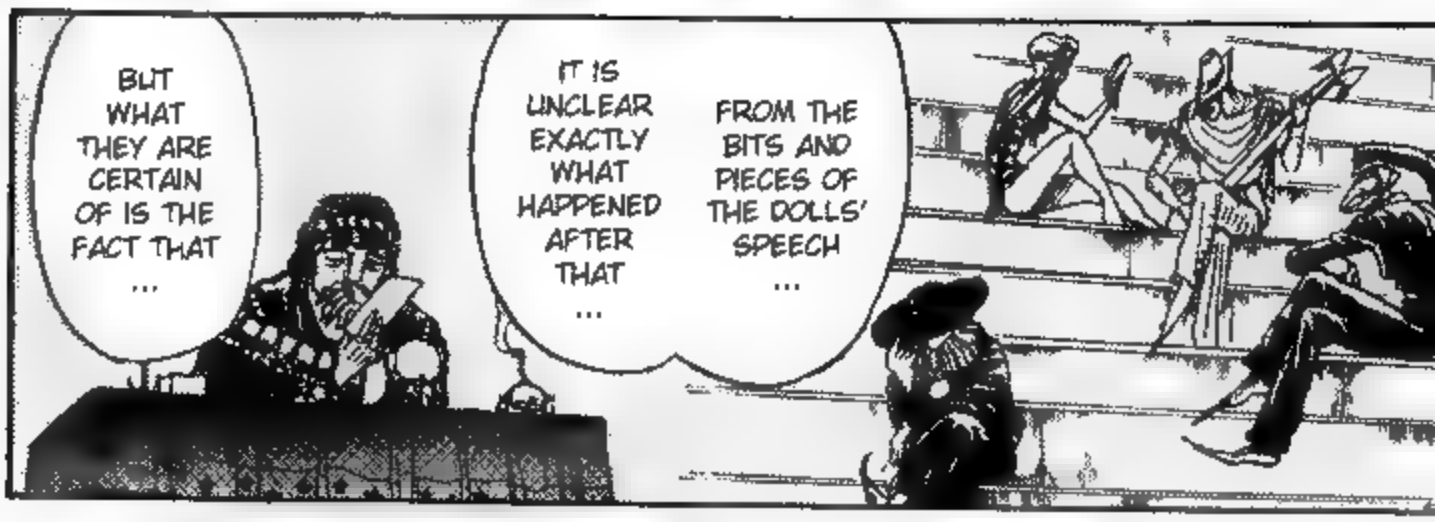

MANY PEOPLE WERE FORCED TO SELL THEIR CHILDREN TO SLAVERS.
IN THE YEAR OF YOUR MOTHER'S BIRTH, THERE WAS A BAD HARVEST IN ORDER TO FEED THEIR FAMILIES
IT HAPPENED LONG BEFORE YOU WERE BORN.


I... HAD AN AUNT? THEN...

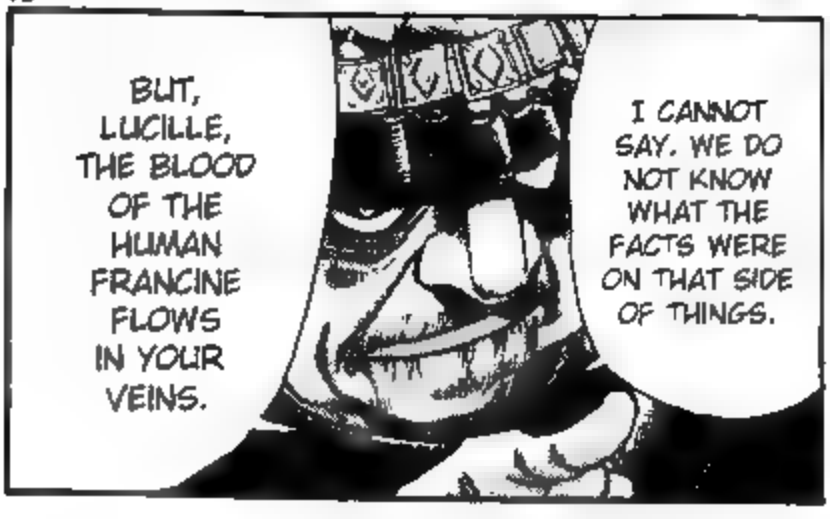

WHILE HER OLDER SISTER, FRANCINE, WAS SOLD ...


IN YOUR HOUSE, YOUR MOTHER, STILL AN UNWEANED INFANT, WAS LEFT BEHIND


SHE WAS SOLD TO THE FAR-AWAY CITY OF PRAGUE ...
AND THERE SHE MET THE CREATOR OF THE DOLLS...
THE MAN IN BLACK ROBES WHO DESTROYED OUR VILLAGE.


FROM THE BITS AND PIECES OF THE DOLLS' SPEECH ...
IT IS UNCLEAR EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT ...
BUT WHAT THEY ARE CERTAIN OF IS THE FACT THAT ...


THERE WAS SOME KIND OF VERY DEEP RELATION-SHIP...
BETWEEN YOUR AUNT AND THE MAN IN BLACK ROBES.
TO THE EXTENT THAT HE BUILT THE AUTOMATON USING HER AS A MODEL ...


I CANNOT SAY. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE FACTS WERE ON THAT SIDE OF THINGS.
BUT, LUCILLE, THE BLOOD OF THE HUMAN FRANCINE FLOWS IN YOUR VEINS.


SO HE BROUGHT THE DOLL FRANCINE TO KROHG AND DESTROYED IT BECAUSE ...
IT HAD BEEN THE MODEL'S HOME-TOWN... IS THAT IT?


NO ONE COULD DENY THE RESEM-BLANCE.
BUT AS TIME PASSED, HER FORM SEEMS TO HAVE LIVED ON IN YOUR DAUGHTER, ANGELINA.
YOU YOURSELF MAY NOT HAVE LOOKED LIKE FRAN-CINE.


THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION.
THAT S


TO THE OTHER VILLAGERS WHEN I SEE THEM IN HELL. "I GAVE THAT COLD-BLOODED LUCILLE 'QUITE A SURPRISE!'"
FUFU... I'LL HAVE SOME-THING TO BOAST ABOUT ...


THIS IS QUITE A SURPRISE ...
.....


YOU NEVER MET HER AGAIN, DID YOU?
28 YEARS AFTER ANGELINA VANISHED, SHE CONTACTED YOU AGAIN AFTER BEING MISSING FOR ALL THAT TIME. BUT YOU CONSIDERED HER A TRAITOR, AND YOU WOULD NOT FORGIVE HER.


COLD-BLOODED ...?


I AM A SHIRO-GANE ...
AND SO ANGELINA DIED LIKE THAT, IN THAT TINY ISLAND COUNTRY.
WHAT KIND OF MOTHER ARE YOU ...?
OF COURSE NOT...
NOT A MOTHER.
DO BE QUIET ...
HOLD ON, FATIMA, IT MIGHT NOT BE SAFE IN THERE! LEAVE THIS TO ME!
IT SEEMS OUR GUESTS ARE HERE ...
OH, HERE IT IS! WE FINALLY FOUND IT! HEEEY, LUCILLE!


SIIIGH
REACH


がばっ
DO BE QUIET, MING-XIA!
OKAY THEN, I'M GONNA HEAD ON IN! ONE... TWO...
15
MA-DAME!
D-DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT! JEEZ!
NOOO...! MAMAN, DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!


NOOO! AHAHAHA!
NOOO! STOP IT MAMA!
KNOCK OUT! ARE THERE ANY NAUGHTY CHILDREN OVER HERE STAYING UP LATE TO PLAY ?
I WAS A .. MOTHER WHO FAILED TO PROTECT HER CHILDREN...
IT'S TRUE...
GRRR!
THIS TENT IS FILLED, INSIDE AND OUT...
WITH ZONAPHA PATHOGENS, ISN'T IT?
WHAT IS IT, LUCILLE ?
AL-MEN-DRA.
HEY! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!
16
ORDINARY HUMANS CANNOT STAY HERE SO MUCH AS AN HOUR WITHOUT CATCHING ZONAPHA SYNDROME
THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THIS IS THE MIDNIGHT CIRCUS AFTER ALL


HUH ?!
HEY! COME ON, NOW!
IS THAT SO ...?
MADAME WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
17
WH-WHA, WHAT ?!


GULP
DRINK IT.
ARGH...! TELL ME I DIDN'T JUST SWALLOW BLOOD...!
OH, REALLY NOW ...
THAT WAS A RATHER CRUDE METHOD, LUCILLE.
ex Machina
WHO JUST DOES THAT OUT OF NOWHERE?! I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
geh!
bleh!
THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS TO WARD OFF ZONAPHA SYNDROME. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THAT ONE?


TO SAVE MY REAL DAUGHTER ...
BECAUSE I COULD NOT DO ANYTHING ...

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

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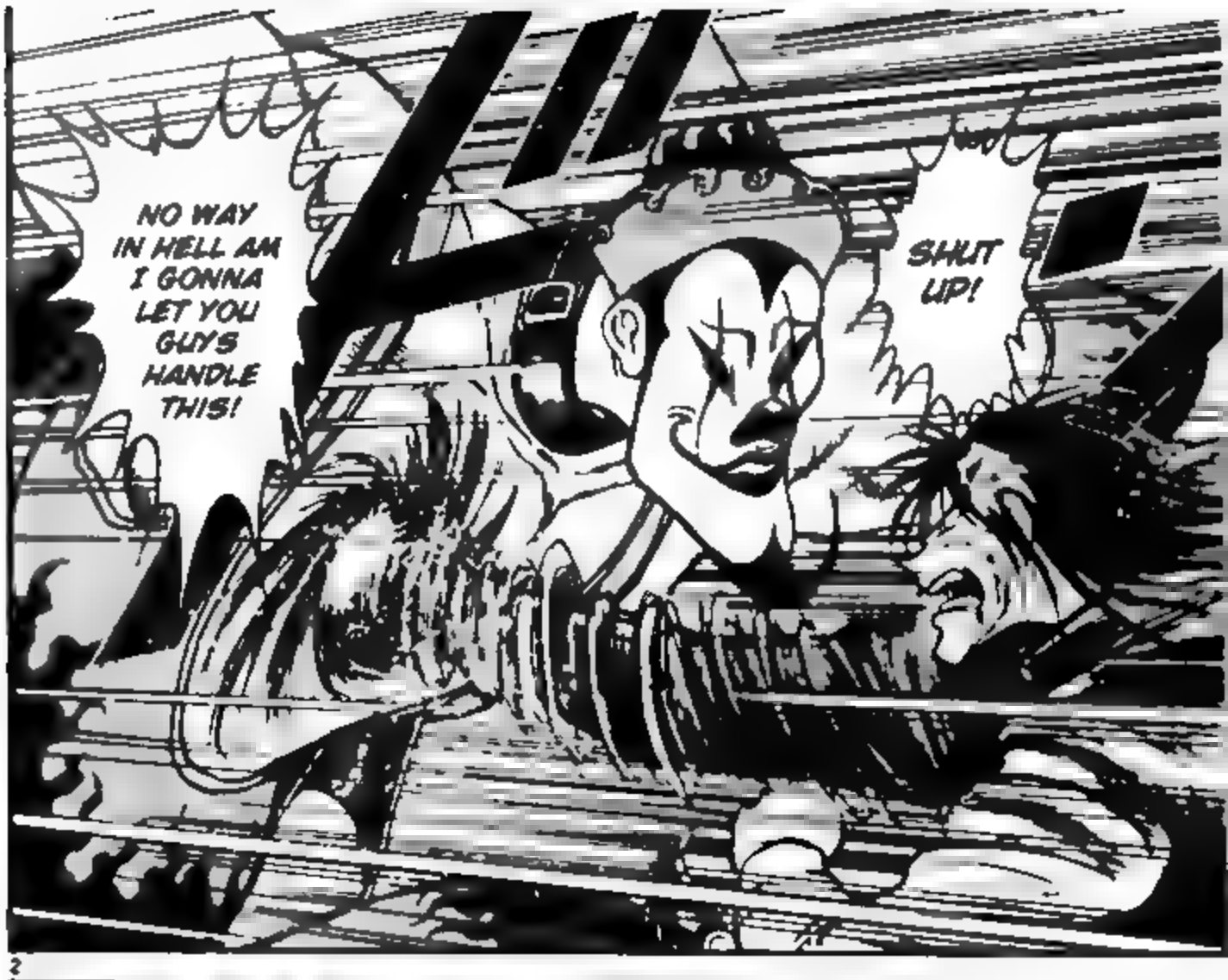
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Act 13
Substitution




NO WAY IN HELL AM I GONNA LET YOU GUYS HANDLE THIS!
SHUT UP!

2


MY KI CAN'T PENETRATE HIS BODY!


KEH... IT'S NO USE, HUMAN!


HIS WHOLE BODY IS RUBBER ...?! DAMN ...!


OKAY, LUCILLE, I GET THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL SHIROGANE ...
WHO BETRAYED YOU GUYS AND IS CURRENTLY SIDING WITH THE ALTOMATA ...
DRRP

JUST TWO OR THREE DROPS IS NOT ENOUGH TO TURN YOU NTO A FULL SHIROGANE, MING-XIA.
YOU KNOW THAT I DON'T WANT TO BECOME IMMORTAL BY DRINKING SHIROGANE BLOOD!
BUT I'M STILL WAITING ON THE REASON YOU MADE ME DRINK YOUR BLOOD JUST NOW!

3


IT'S DIS-GUS-TING!


DIDN'T I SAY THAT AS MY FATHER'S DAUGHTER, I DON'T EVER WANT TO RELY ON STRENGTH FROM SOME WEIRD MEDICINE I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT?!


DIDN'T I SAY THAT I WANT TO DEFEAT THE DOLLS AS A HUMAN BEING?!
THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE HERE!

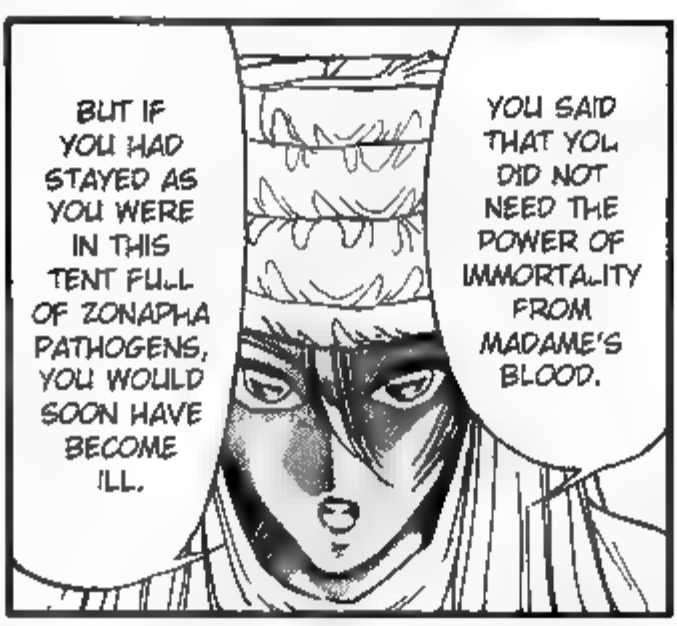

YOU CANNOT PURCHASE ANYTHING FROM A STORE... WITHOUT PAYING SOMETHING IN EX-CHANGE.
HUH ?
MISS MING-XIA...
EVEN THOUGH NONE OF US WISHED TO DRINK SOMETHING THAT WOULD MAKE US IMMORTAL ...
WE SHIROGANE HAVE DRUNK THE AQUA VITAE AND BECOME IMMORTAL IN ORDER THAT WE MAY CARRY OUT OUR REVENGE ON THE DOLLS.
... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WANTED TO LIVE OUR OWN ORDINARY LIVES, FULL OF ORDINARY HAPPINESS...
EVEN THOUGH WE ALL ...
4
WHAT IS THE PRICE THAT YOU ARE PAYING FOR THIS FIGHT?
FATIMA, JUST WHAT ARE YOU...
NO CHOICE BUT TO PAY A HIGH PRICE.
WE COULD NOT FORGIVE THE AUTOMATA FOR DESTROYING THAT HAPPINESS, AND SO WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO BECOME SHIROGANE ...


IN THE SHOP CALLED "LIFE" ...
NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, YOU MUST PAY SOMETHING TO GET SOMETHING.

...!

MISS MING-XIA...


SACRIFICING OUR HUMANITY AND TURNING OUR BACKS ON A NORMAL LIFE...
WAS THE VERY FIRST PAYMENT THAT WE SHIROGANE MADE.

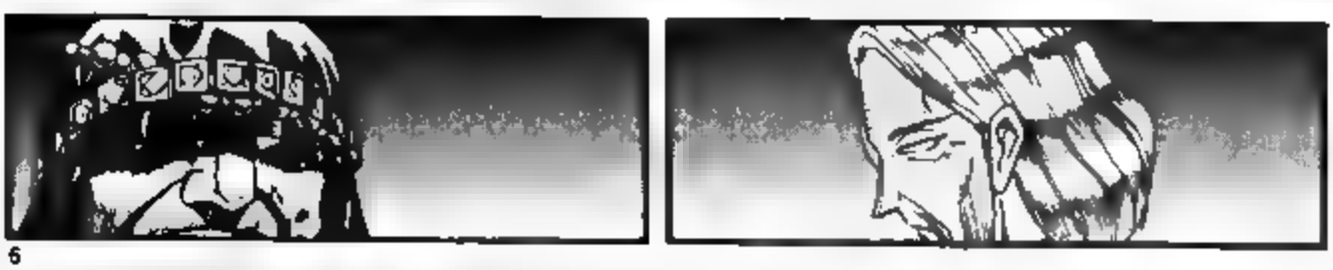

BUT IF YOU HAD STAYED AS YOU WERE IN THIS TENT FULL OF ZONAPHA PATHOGENS, YOU WOULD SOON HAVE BECOME ILL.
YOU SAID THAT YOU DID NOT NEED THE POWER OF IMMORTALITY FROM MADAME'S BLOOD.




BUT
MISS MING-XIA, YOU SAID THAT YOU WANTED TO GET YOUR REVENGE AS A HUMAN.


IF THAT HAD HAPPENED, YOU WOULD NO LONGER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CARRY OUT YOUR REVENGE.


IF YOU ARE NOT WILLING ...
TO MAKE THAT SMALL A PAY-MENT, DO YOU REALLY THINK ...
THAT YOU CAN FIGHT ALONG-SIDE MR. NARUMI, IN THE SAME RING AS THE SHIROGANE ?!



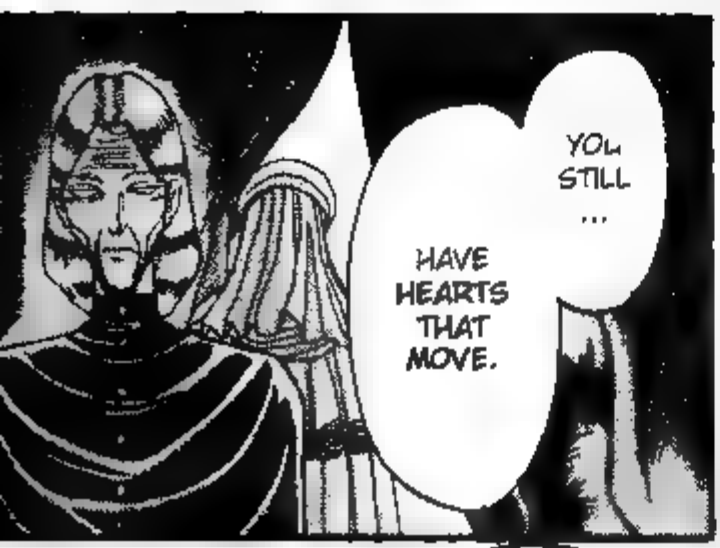

I'M SORRY, LUCILLE. IT WAS KINDA GROSS, BUT... THANK Y--
.....
I... I GET IT, FATIMA.
I... WAS TRYING TO FIGHT THESE RIDICULOUS OPPONENTS... WITHOUT REALLY COMMITTING MYSELF.


...ONE OF THE COINS I PAID LONG AGO...
WAS VERY MUCH LIKE YOU ...
NO ...
IT'S NOTHING. FORGET ABOUT IT.
LUCILLE... WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...?
SLAP
YEE-OWCH!
HMPH... JUST IMAGINE IF ONE OF THE SHIROGANE'S REPRESENTATIVES CAME DOWN WITH ZONAPHA SYNDROME.
THAT WOULD HAVE GIVEN THE DOLLS QUITE A LAUGH.
AND AS FOR YOU, FATIMA... THAT'S ENOUGH SERMONIZING.
PLEASE EXCUSE ME, MADAME.
UM, HELLO ?!


HYA HYA HYA HYA ...
DO BE QUIET! IT'S HIGH TIME WE WERE GETTING BACK TO THE RING.
THEY WERE LIKE YOU... YES, AND I WAS, AS WELL...
GETTING ANGRY, CRYING... BEING LOUD.
IT REMINDS ME OF THE OLD DAYS...
WHAT FUN THESE TWO ARE.
WE WERE LIKE YOU ...
LIFE WAS HARD, BUT...
BEFORE WE BECAME SHIROGANE ...
PER-HAPS ...
LUCILLE, EVEN A SHIROGANE MUST FIND IT AMUSING TO HAVE YOUNG FOLK LIKE THIS AROUND.
HUH? WHAT?
AND YOU ARE MING-XIA? YOU HAVE FINE EYES AS WELL. THEY SHOW A STRAIGHT AND HONEST PATH.
O-OH, MY.
YOUR NAME WAS FATIMA, WAS IT? YOU HAVE FINE EYES. I SEE THE LIGHT OF LOVE DANCING THERE.


THE ALTOMATA SELDOM LAUGH.
THEY ONLY JOKE AND PLAY ...
IN ORDER TO MAKE THE DOLL FRANCINE LAUGH.


THOUGH THEY THEMSELVES DO NOT HAVE HEARTS THAT MOVE ...
THEY HAVE GONE ON DOING THE SAME THINGS FOR 200 YEARS ...
BELIEVING THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE FRANCINE.


YOU STILL ...
HAVE HEARTS THAT MOVE.

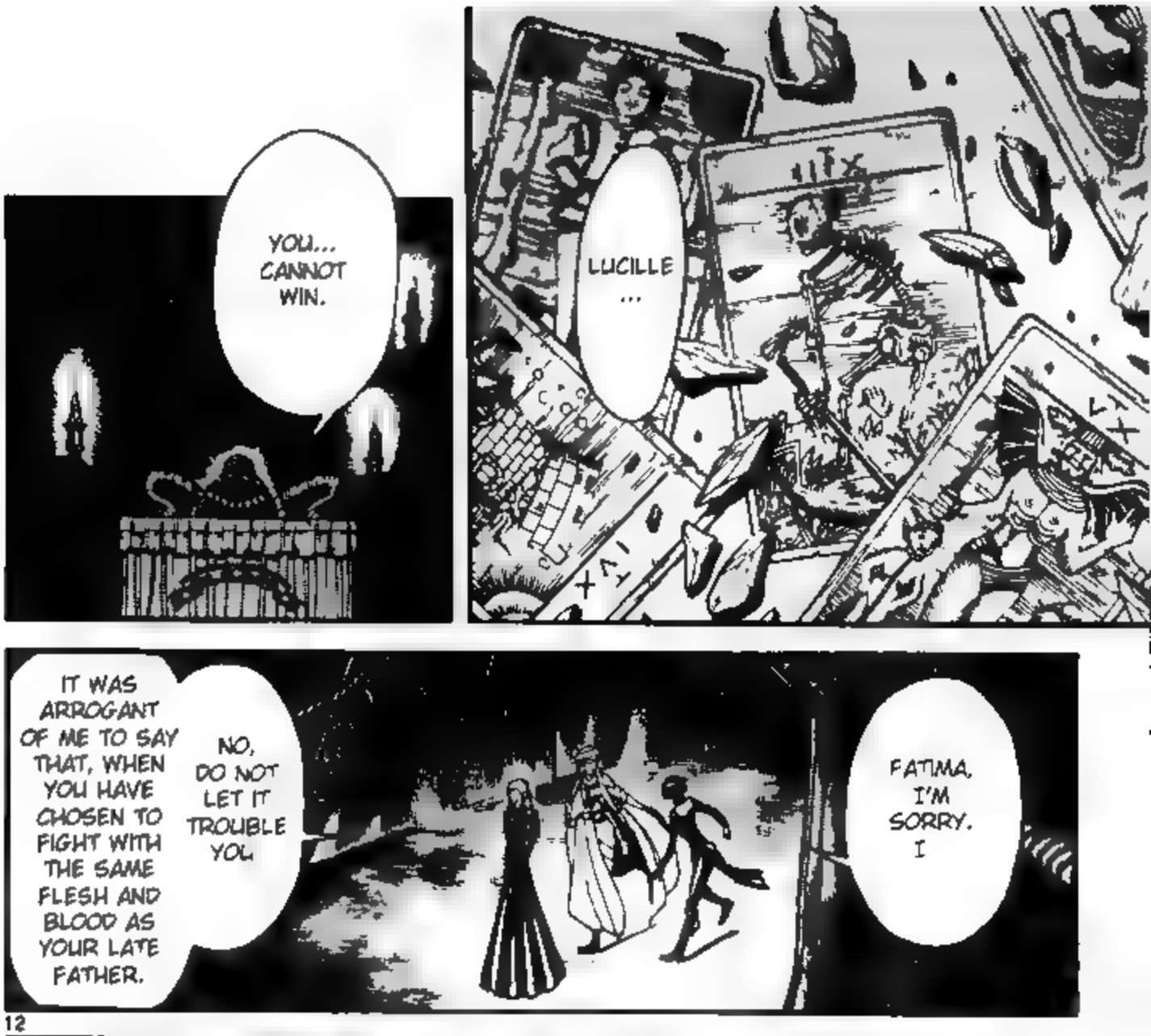

I HAVE BEEN AMONG SUCH BEINGS FOR SO LONG ...
THAT I HAVE BECOME JUST THE SAME AS THEM.
BUT, LUCILLE... THE DOLLS DO HAVE ONE SMALL DIFFERENCE ...
FROM YOU, SHIROGANE.


IT WOULD BE BEST FOR YOU TO LEAVE HERE, ALMENDRA, BEFORE MIDNIGHT TOMORROW.


...I WONDER IF THAT IS SO.
OH, YES, THAT'S RIGHT. MY REAL REASON FOR COMING WAS TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.


TO AN OLD FRIEND AND COMRADE-IN-ARMS FROM LONG AGO...
PERHAPS... THAT IS ALL I CAN SAY. CONSIDER IT A FAREWELL ...
... SOMETHING IS GOING TO HAPPEN, IS IT?
THE CONCLUSION OF THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE SHIROGANE AND THE AUTOMATA.
I WILL STAY RIGHT HERE... AND SEE WITH MY OWN EYES ...
GATHERING MY BELONGINGS WOULD BE TOO TIRESOME ...
THANK YOU... BUT I HAVE GROWN TOO OLD.
WAIT.
...THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT YOU WOULD SAY
10
YOU AND THE OTHERS CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO LEAVE, CAN YOU ...?
...
AS THANKS FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COME TELL ME SOMETHING IMPORTANT.
THIS TIME IT'S MY TURN.


HOWEVER... MY FORTUNE-TELLING IS ALWAYS ACCURATE.
ONE MIGHT SAY THIS IS UN-AVOIDABLE.
...AND THE SAME GOES FOR US.
YES ... IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT.
"EVERY-ONE IS GOING TO DIE."
TO-MOR-ROW
FARE-WELL, LUCILLE
.....
IT PROB-ABLY MEANS YOU AUTO-MATA
...BY "EVERY-ONE"...
MAY YOU STAY IN GOOD HEALTH, ALMENDRA OR, RATHER
YES

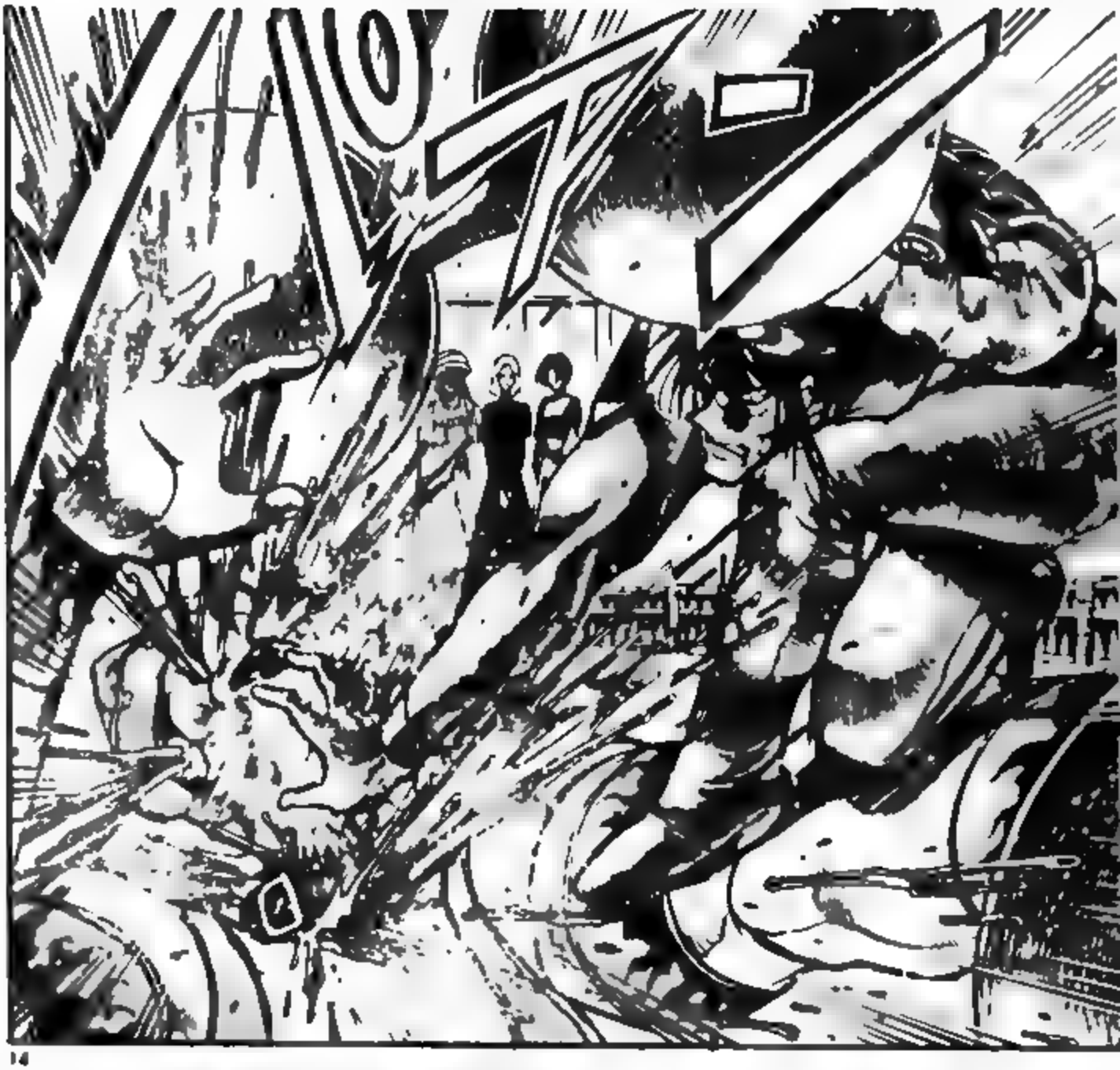

YOU... CANNOT WIN.
LUCILLE ...
IT WAS ARROGANT OF ME TO SAY THAT, WHEN YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO FIGHT WITH THE SAME FLESH AND BLOOD AS YOUR LATE FATHER.
NO, DO NOT LET IT TROUBLE YOU.
FATIMA, I'M SORRY. I
12
IF MY KI WON'T PENE-TRATE YOU ...!
RIGHT... MR. NARUMI IS THE CURRENT FIGHTER.
HOW IS THE BATTLE GOING?


THEN TRY THIS ON FOR SIZE!
GGH ...
GAH ...

13


HMM, I WONDER IF MING-HAI'S HOLDING UP OKAY ...?


HERE WE ARE



14



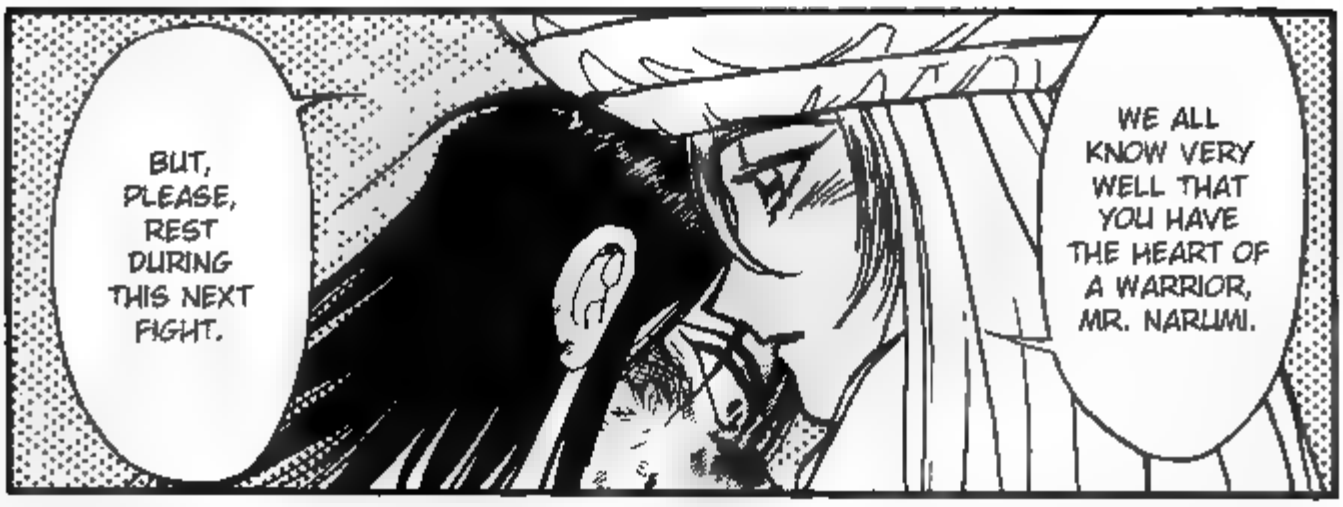



I DON'T FEEL LIKE SWIT-CHIN'!
SHUT UP!
THAT'S RIGHT! COME BACK HERE! SWITCH WITH ONE OF US!
NARUMI, IT'S IM-POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO CONTINUE!


WHY, YOU ASK? BECAUSE THE NEXT OPPONENTS YOU FIGHT WILL BE THE ACROBAT BROTHERS!
HMM. YOUR DETERMINATION IS ADMIRABLE BUT IN MY HUMBLE OPINION, IT WOULD BE BEST TO CALL IN A PARTNER
FOR THE NEXT FIGHT
HUH?

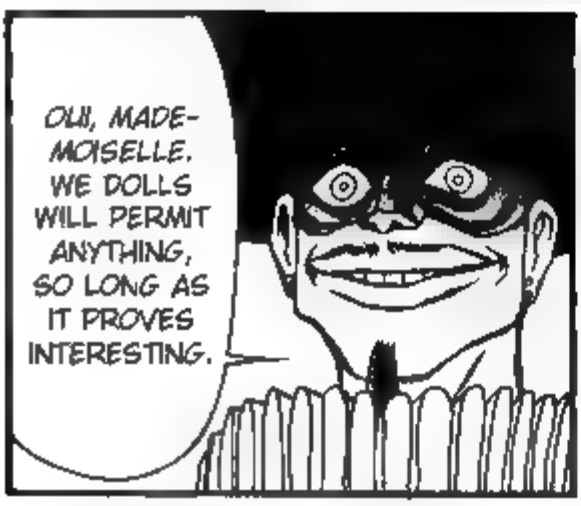

IT'LL BE LIKE WE'RE CHEATING, RIIIGHT?
SO IF YOU DON'T CALL SOMEONE ELSE IN '
FULL! WE FIGHT AS A TWOFER, AFTER AAAALL


KEH! I'M GOING IN THERE ANYWAY!
WHAT IS HE DOING?! WHY IS HE BEING SO STUBBORN?!
NO... I'M FINE LIKE THIS.
I DON'T NEED... ANYONE ELSE...
OH, COME ON, NOW!


BUT, PLEASE, REST DURING THIS NEXT FIGHT.
WE ALL KNOW VERY WELL THAT YOU HAVE THE HEART OF A WARRIOR, MR. NARUMI.

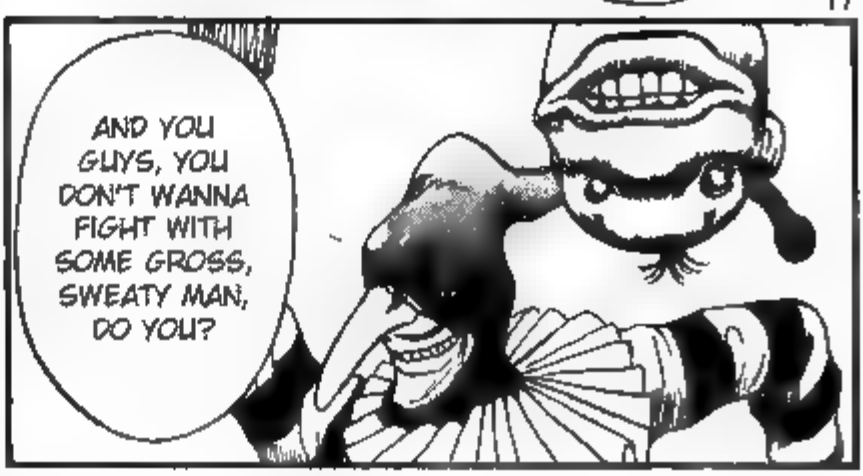

HEY, HOLD ON! WHAT ARE YOU TWO...?!




OUI, MADEMOISELLE. WE DOLLS WILL PERMIT ANYTHING, SO LONG AS IT PROVES INTERESTING.


HEY! YOUR NAME'S DOTTORE, RIGHT?
IT'S OKAY IF WE CHANGE UP OUR MEMBERS A LITTLE BIT, RIGHT?


THEN ... YOU MEAN ...?


AND YOU GUYS, YOU DON'T WANNA FIGHT WITH SOME GROSS, SWEATY MAN, DO YOU?


WILL BE THE TWO OF US!
WE ARE SAYING THAT YOUR NEXT OPPO-NENTS ...
AND FATI-MA!
MING-XIA ...

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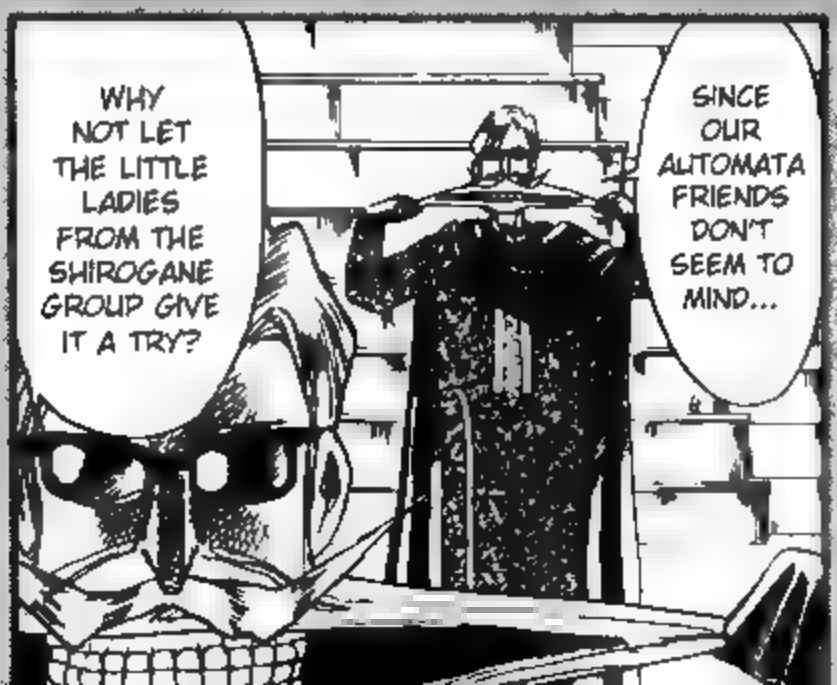
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第14幕 アクロバット・ブラザーズVS. ミシシア&ファティマI





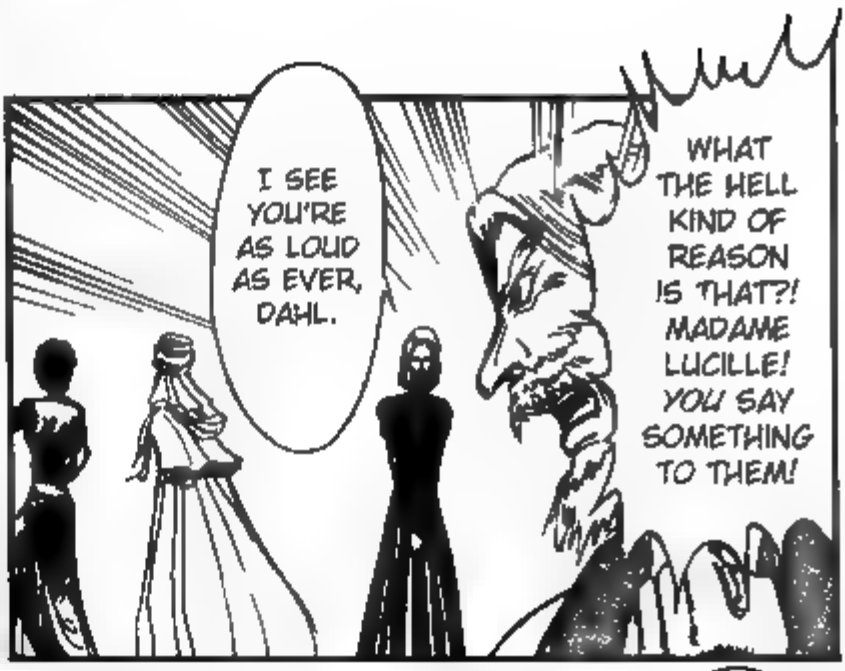



WE CAN'T LET MING-HAI BE THE ONLY ONE LOOKING COOL AROUND HERE!
AFTER ALL ...
I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A VIOLATION OF THE RULES
HOWEVER, I WAS BROUGHT UP HERE IN THE SAHARA ...
THESE SANDS WHICH SOAK UP THE BLOOD SPILLED IN BATTLE... THEY MUST DESIRE MY BLOOD MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE'S.
2

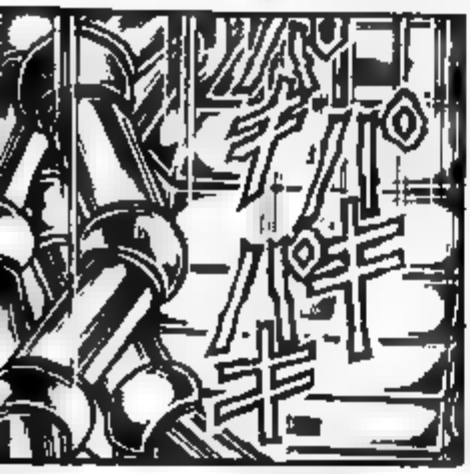
Act 14

The Acrobat Brothers vs. Ming-Xia and Fatima I


TO PUT IT AS YOU WOULD ...
AS LONG AS THEY CAN WIN, ANYONE'LL DO FINE... RIGHT?!


I SEE YOU'RE AS LOUD AS EVER, DAHL.
WHAT THE HELL KIND OF REASON IS THAT?! MADAME LUCILLE! YOU SAY SOMETHING TO THEM!


YES!
LET'S DO IT, FATIMA.

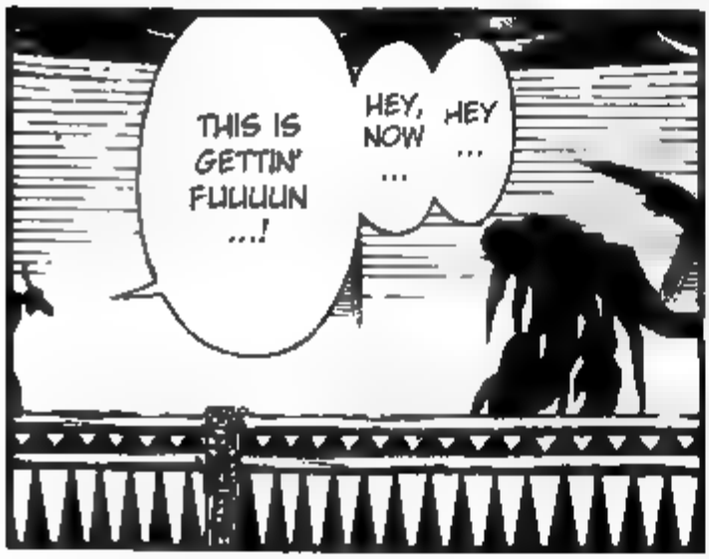



HUH?! WHOOA !!






LET'S GO, SPINET-TINA!


THIS IS GETTIN' FUUUUN ...!
HEY, NOW ...
HEY ...


JEEZ, THAT SCARED ME! F-FATIMA, IS THIS ONE OF THOSE MARIONETTE THINGS THAT YOU SHIROGANE USE TO FIGHT?
YES, MISS MING-XIA. THIS IS MY PUPPET.


SINCE OUR OPPONENTS ARE GONNA BE TWO ...LLLADIES ...!
SAY, BRO, THAT GIRL IN THE ROBES IS A REEEAL LOOKER.
HOW 'BOUT YOU, PEDRO-LINO?
BLACK HAIR! THE BLACK HAIR!
I LIKE THE GIRLIE WITH THE BLACK HAIR, BIG BRO ORAZIOOOO ...!


SO, WHAT SAY WE GET THE FUN STARTED RIGHT AWAY, PEDROLI-NOOOO...!
OKAY, BIG BRO ORAZI-OOOO!
WE KNOW ALL ABOUT GIRLS, DON'T WE, BIG BRO ORAZIO...!
YEP, WE KNOW HOW TO MAKE THEM TEEEERRIBLE AT FIGHTING.
HYAHOOOOO!

6

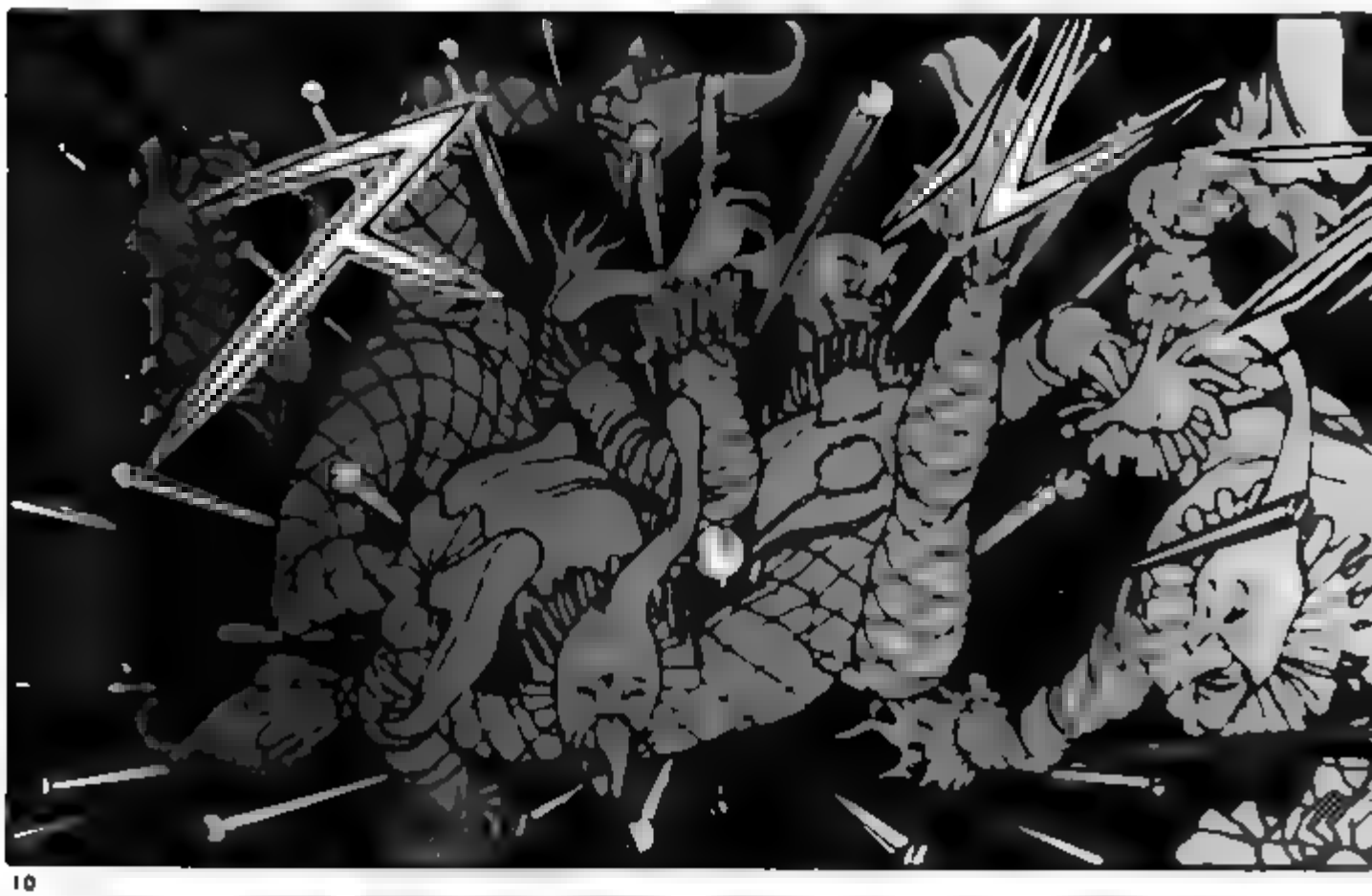

THE SIDE, THEN!
THE FRONT IS NO GOOD ...
MISS MING-XIA!
RIGHT!
BLACK HAIR GIIIRL ...!


GOTCHA!
MISS MING-XIA, ABOVE YOU!
IMPOS-SIBLE ! HE VAN-
!


HE KILLED HIS INERTIA BY GRAB-BING THE FLOOR ?!
IT'S EASY TO SHAKE 'EM UP BY GROSSING 'EM OUT ...!
GIRLS' FIRST WEAK POINT ...
!!
AND SO ...
SEE?
DAMN IT, HOW DARE YOU ...!


IT'S EASY TO SET UP A CHANCE TO ATTACK
HEEEEY. NOW, BETTER NOT LOOK AWAAAAY, LITTLE MISS IN THE ROBES
MISS MING-XIA!
HM?!
SINCE I'M ABOUT TO TEACH YOU WHAT A GIRL'S SECOND WEAK POINT IS!


HOHHO ...! ARE THESE THE RUMORED STINGERS OF SPINETTINA ...?
GO ON, GIVE IT A TRY!




YOU MIIISSED ..!


WEAK POINT NUMBER TWO...
KH...!



12




THOUGH JUST WHYYYY THAT MIGHT BE...
WE ALTOMATA DON'T UNDER-STAND AT AAAAALL ...!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
13
YOU... ASS-HOLE ...!
AA AA AA AH !!
1


THAT'S RIGHT, BIG BRO! HUMAN WOMEN ARE SO EASY TO HANDLE!
FATIMA ...
REDUCED TO THIS STATE JUST FROM LOSING HER CLOTHES!
HEE HEE HEE HEE! HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?! THE BRAVE SHIRO-GANE...
OH, HERE GOES THIS ONE TOO, BIG BRO. HEH HEH HEH HEH!
AAA AAA AH!


THEY'RE USE-LESS!
NOT MUCH TO WRITE HOME ABOUT, THERE.
PFF ..



15


HUH?
WH-
WHAT
?!


B-BIG BROOOO ...!




YOU TRICKED USSSS ...!


Y-YOU ... PUR-POSELY ...


WOMEN ARE LIARS!
SIMPLE-MINDED PUPPETS! WE'RE THE ONES WHO'RE GONNA TEACH YOU!
NUM-BER THREE ...

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

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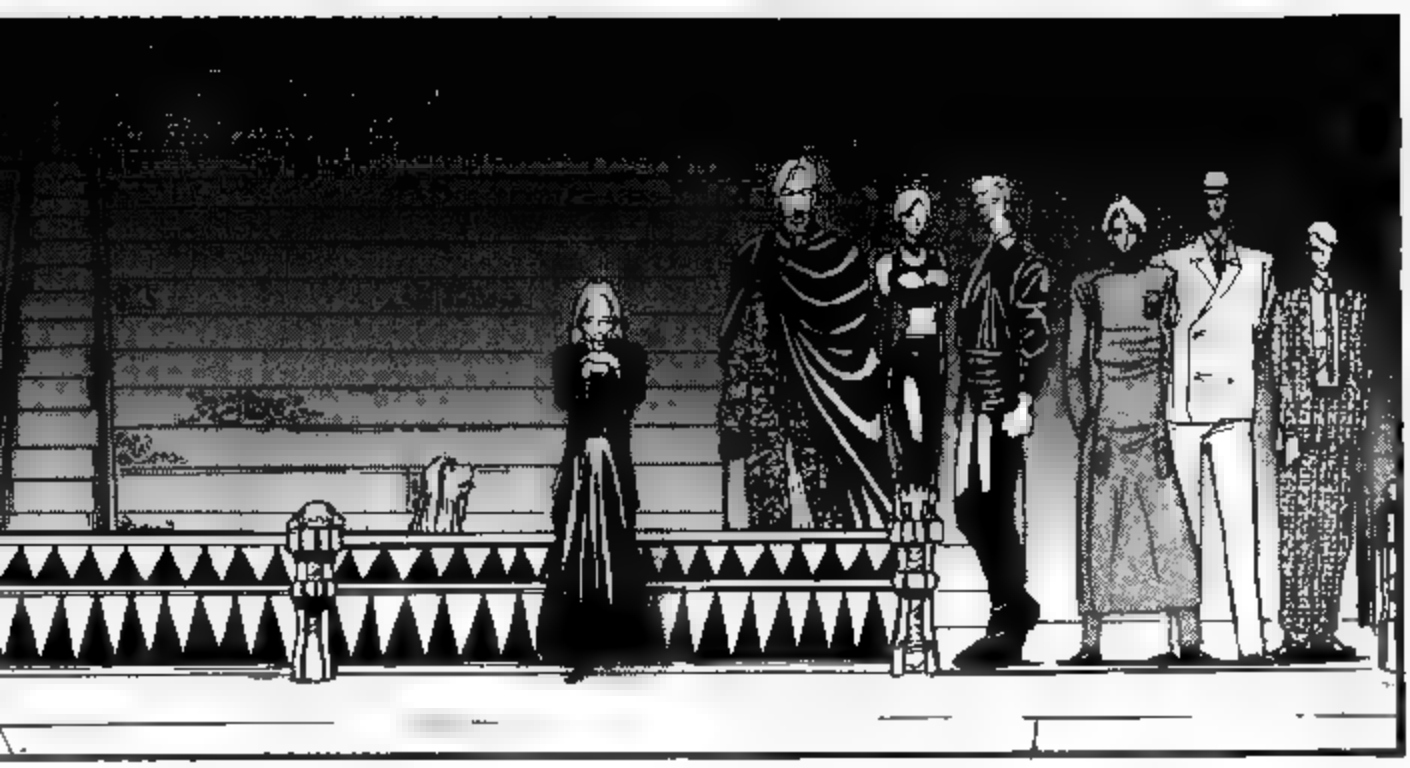


Act 15

The Acrobat Brothers vs. Ming-Xia and Fatima II




W-WE WERE JUST PUTTING ON A LITTLE SHOW, MASTER DOTTORE.
YOU WERE PLAYED FOR FOOLS BY A PAIR OF HUMAN WOMEN..
I DO HOPE YOU ARE SUITABLY ASHA-MED.
RIGHT UP.
IS THAT SO. IF YOU TWO TREAT US TO ANOTHER DISGRACEFUL PERFORMANCE SUCH AS THAT ONE ...
I'LL EAT YOU ...
2
WON'T FALL BEHIND AGAAAIN ...!
WE... W-W-WE ...!




BUT THEN, THOSE IDIOT BROTHERS AREN'T OUT OF THE RUNNING YET...
SO THEY MIGHT END UP LOSING AFTER ALL, RIGHT?


EVEN THOUGH FIVE OF MY SHIRO-GANE-O HAVE ALREADY BEEN KILLED.
THOSE GIRLS SEEM TO BE DOING PRETTY WE..., LUCILLE.

3

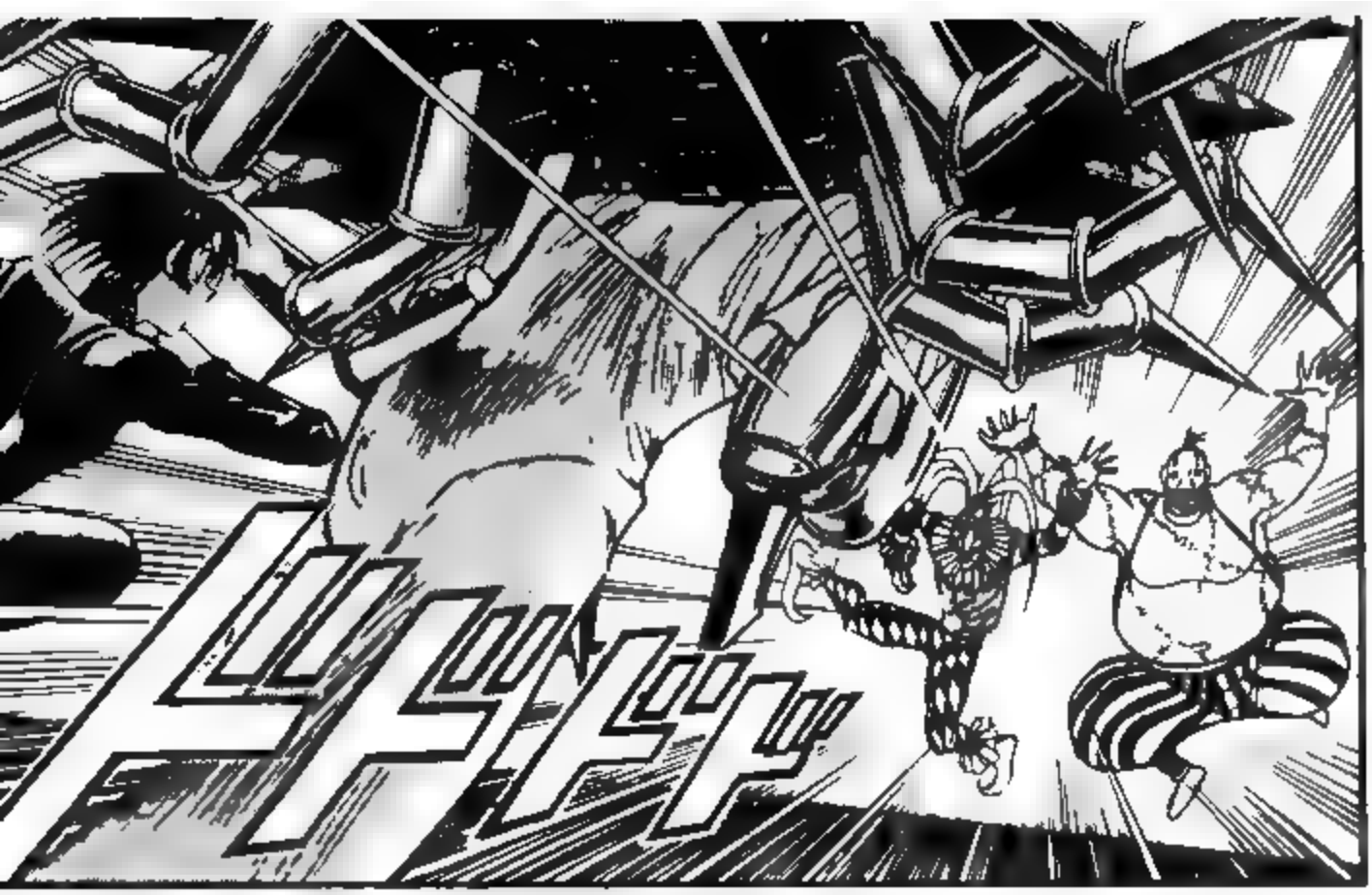

SO THEY HAVE ...
HAH
GUESS THOSE TWO GOT A SECOND WIND FOR SOME REASON ...
HAH ..


"THOSE GIRLS" WILL WIN.


WHOOPSY-DAISY! THAT WAS RUDE! HAHAHA!
LOSE ...?

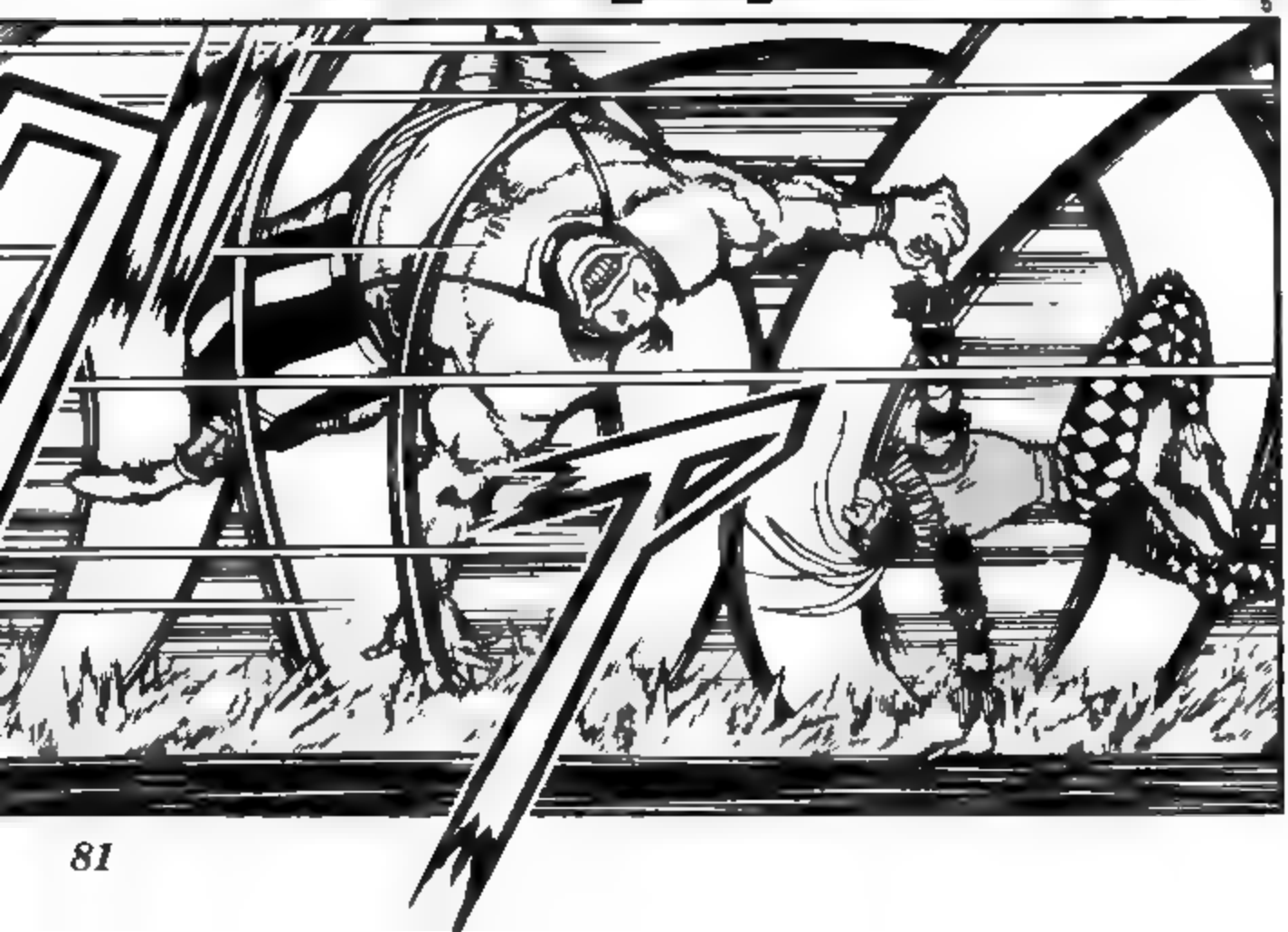

I AM UNHAR-MED.
YEAH, SOME-HOW. HOW ABOUT YOU, FATIMA ?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MISS MING-XIA?


THAT FAKE CRYING OF YOURS REALLY GAVE ME A SCARE, THOUGH!
WAS I THAT GOOD?
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO HAD REAL TEARS FLOWING ...
STILL, WE WERE ONLY ABLE TO OPEN UP A WINDOW TO ATTACK ...
BECAUSE YOU UNDERSTOOD WHAT I WAS DOING.
HEY, I'M AN ACTRESS! THAT KIND OF PERFORMANCE ... IS WHAT I DO!
DO YOU THINK I ALSO HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE AN ACTRESS ...?
ABSOLUTELY!
I'M HAPPY TO HEAR IT!
キュキュ
4


HUHUHU


OKAAAAY, BIG BRO ORAZIOOOO ...!
LET'S GOOOO, PEDRO-LINOOOO ...!!
GLGL

5


AA


WE'RE THE ACROBAT BROTHERS! TOGETHER WE ARE INVINCIBLE!
MYAH MYAH MYA!




IF WE CAN'T... SPLIT THEM UP!
!... IT'S NO GOOD... THOSE TWO...
MISS MING-XIA!

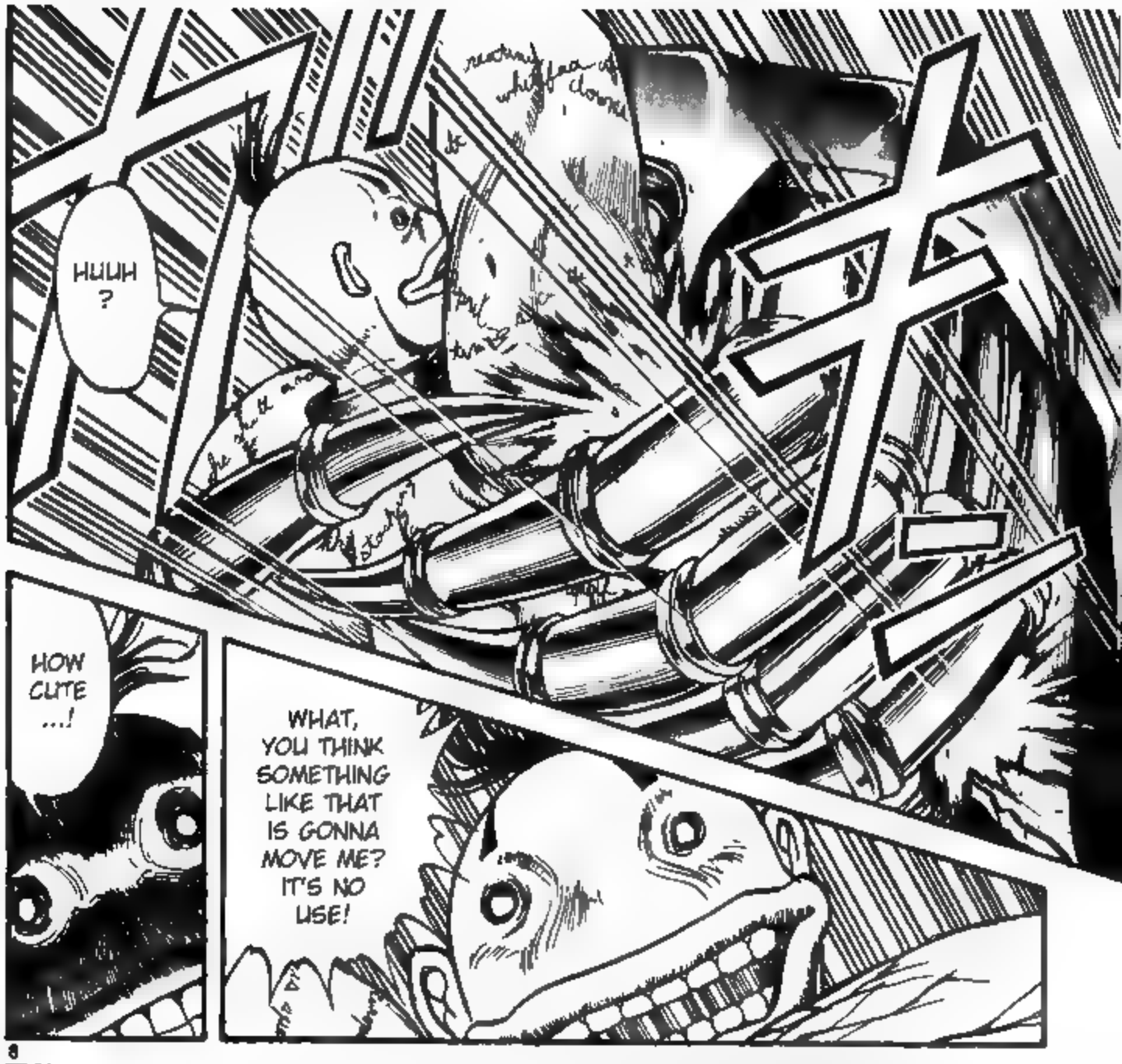

TAKE THIIIIS ...!
HEHHA HAHAH, WHAT'S WROO-ONG?
がしゃ
がしゃ
がしゃ


HM?
IS THAT SO...? I HAVE AN IDEA.

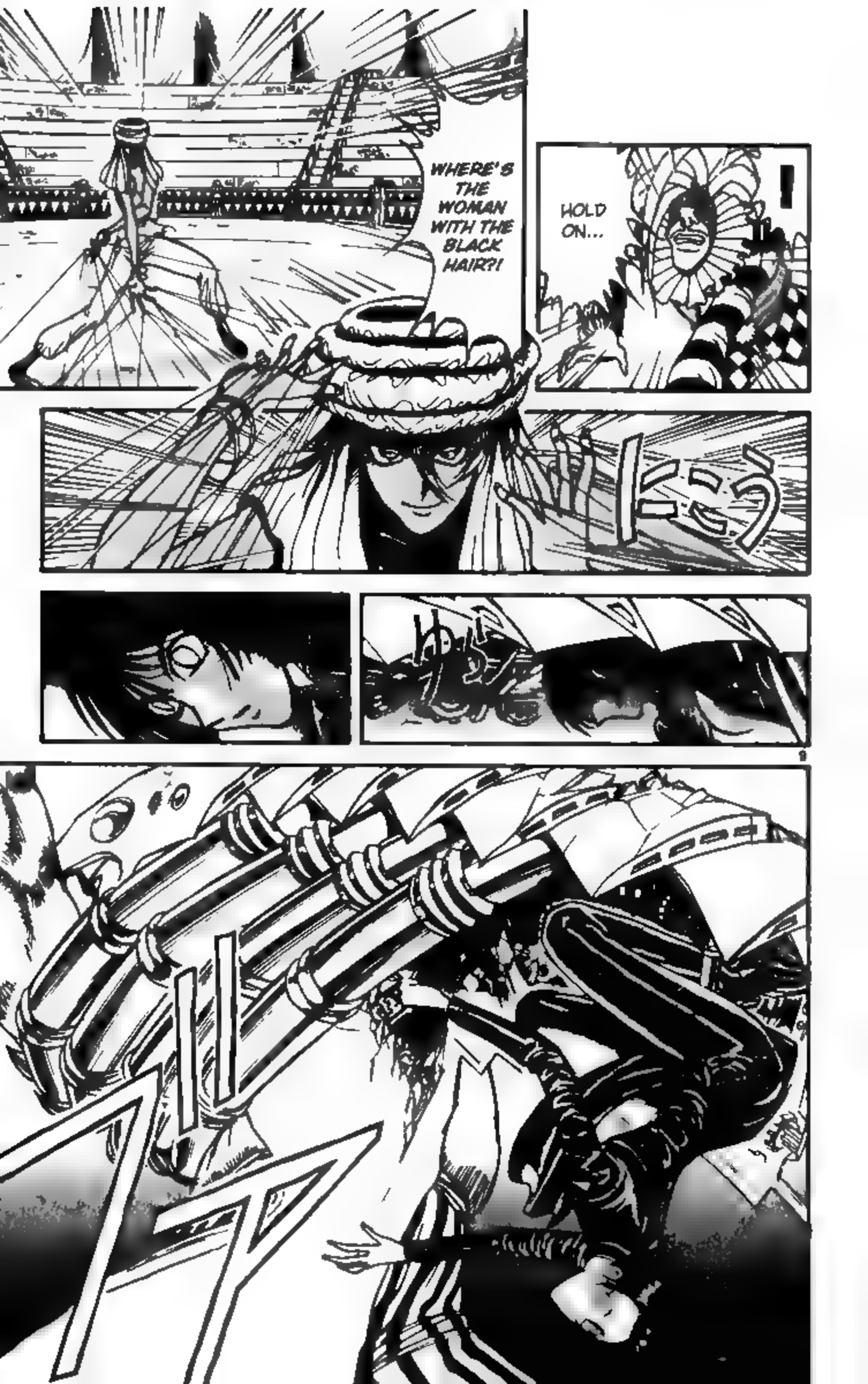
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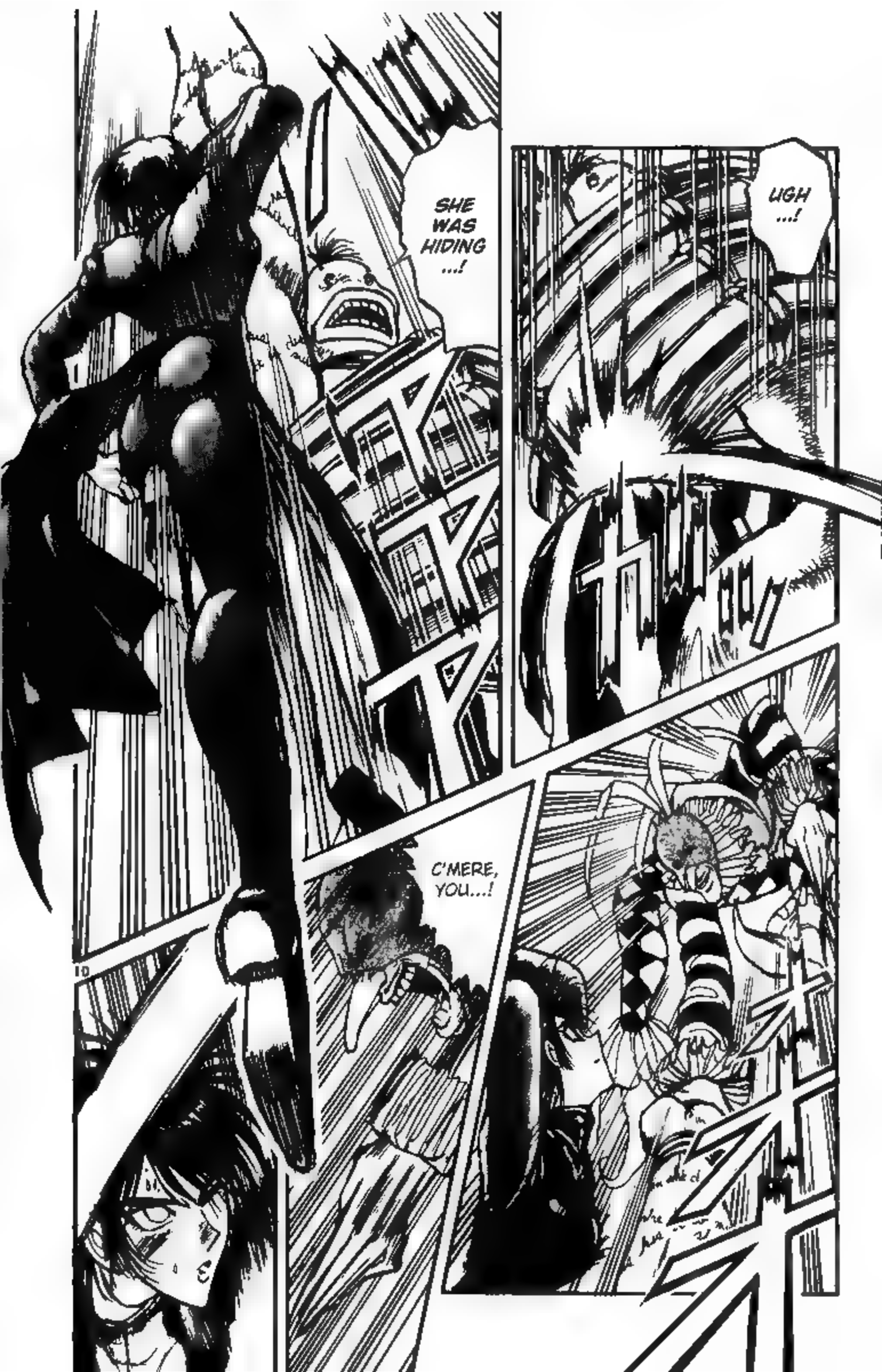

STUUUUPIIID! EVEN THAT BIG DUMB PUPPET OF YOURS WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD...!




HUUH ?
HOW CUTE ...!
WHAT, YOU THINK SOMETHING LIKE THAT IS GONNA MOVE ME? IT'S NO USE!


HAHHAA, HOW D'YOU LIKE THAT?! PEDROLINO'S STRONG, ISN'T HEEEE...?!


WHERE'S THE WOMAN WITH THE BLACK HAIR?!
HOLD ON...
!

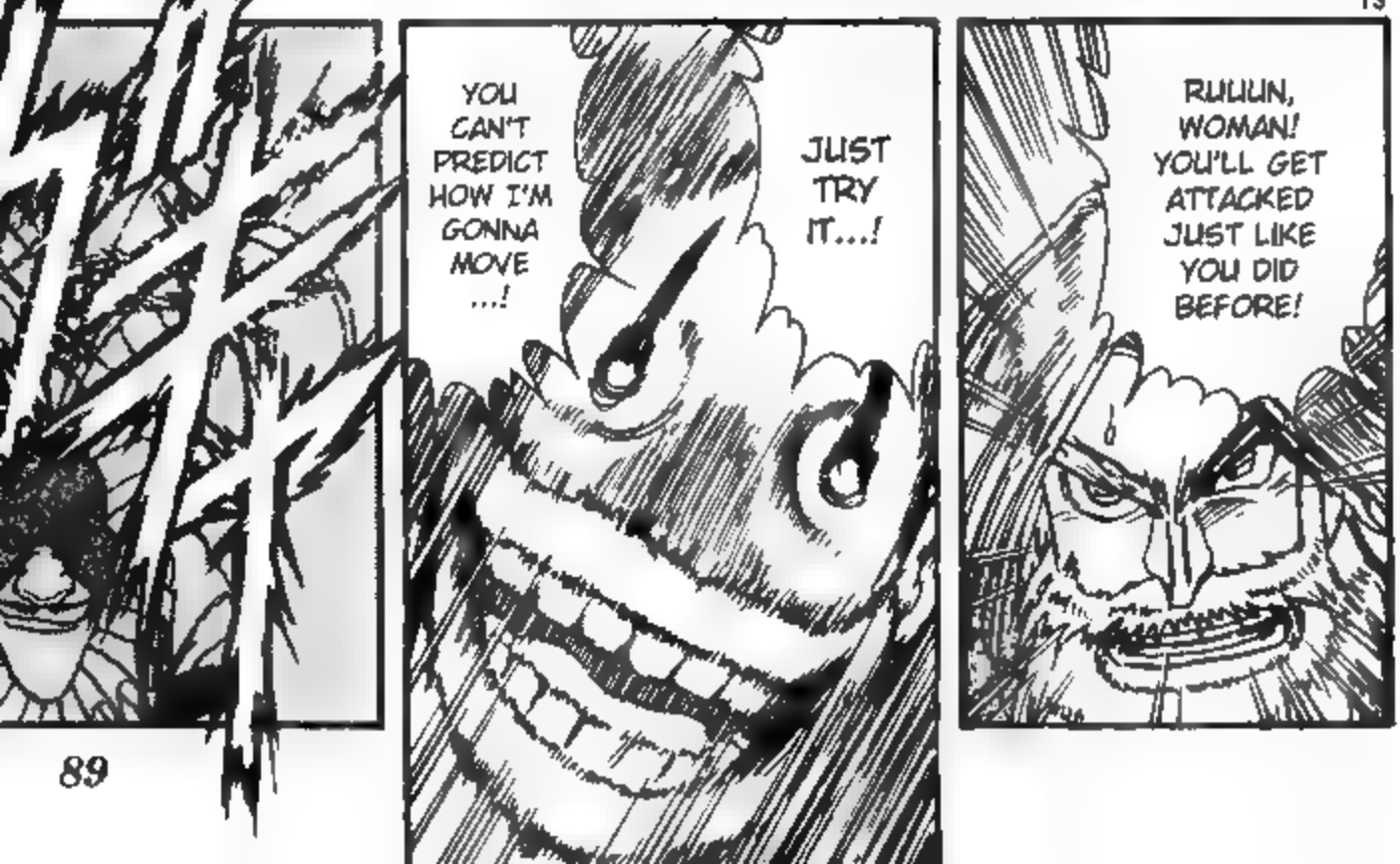

SHE WAS HIDING ...!
UGH ...!
C'MERE, YOU...!


WHA... SHE WASN'T AIMING FOR ME ?!
THEN, HER TARGET WAS '


OUR HANDS ...?!
THAT'LL MAKE IT HARDER FOR THEM TO PULL OFF ANY ACRO-BATICS!
NICE THINK-ING!
12
AND WITH THESE TWO HANDS ...!
DON'T GET FLUSTERED, PEDRO! NO. WE'VE STILL GOT TWO LEFT, DON'T WE ?
BIG BRO...! OUR HANDS ...!


SORRY, BUT THIS IS BYE-BYE FOR YOU, BLACK-HAIRED GIRLIE!
IT'S NO USE! IF HE GRABS THE FLOOR ...
HE CAN KILL HIS INERTIA AND MOVE FREELY! YOU CAN'T TAKE HIM ON FROM THE FRONT!

13


YOU CAN'T PREDICT HOW I'M GONNA MOVE ...!
JUST TRY IT...!
RUUUN, WOMAN! YOU'LL GET ATTACKED JUST LIKE YOU DID BEFORE!

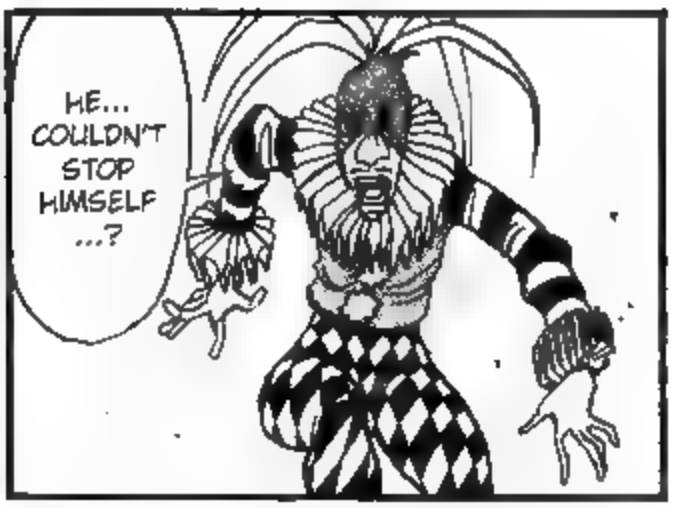


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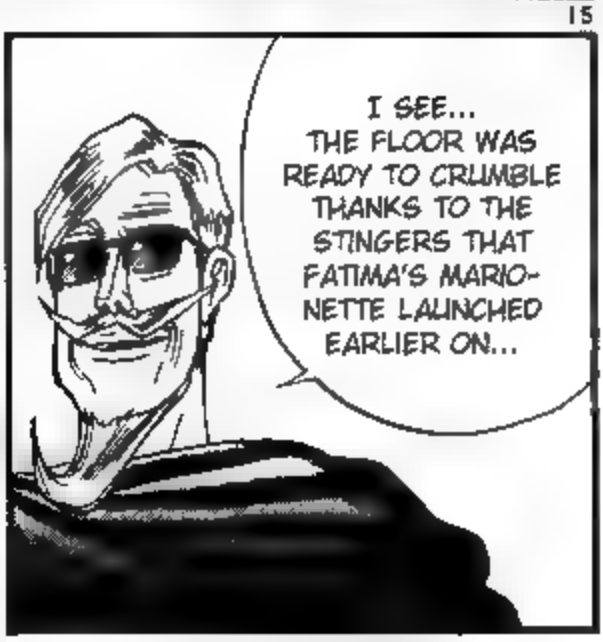

HE... COULDN'T STOP HIMSELF ...?

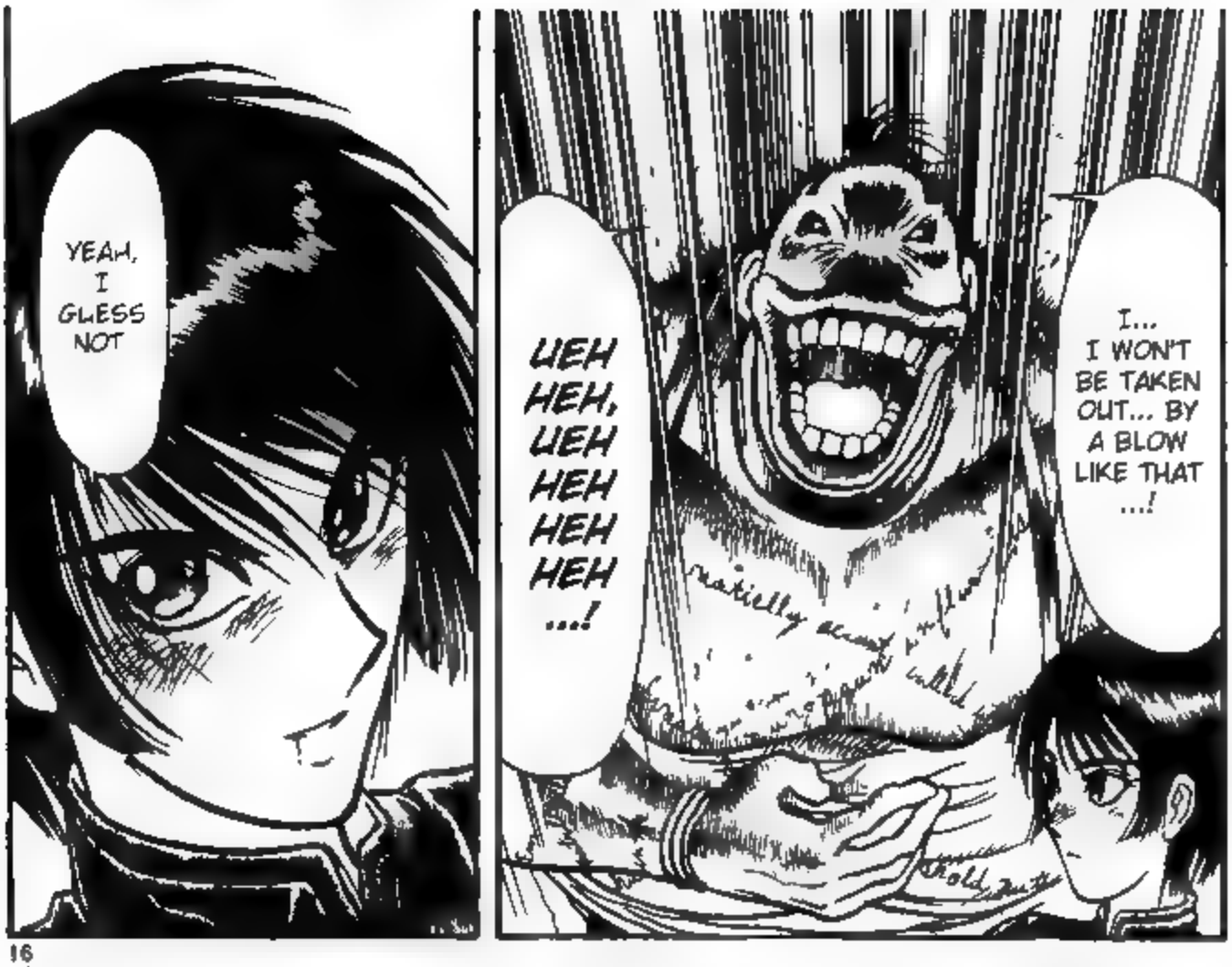


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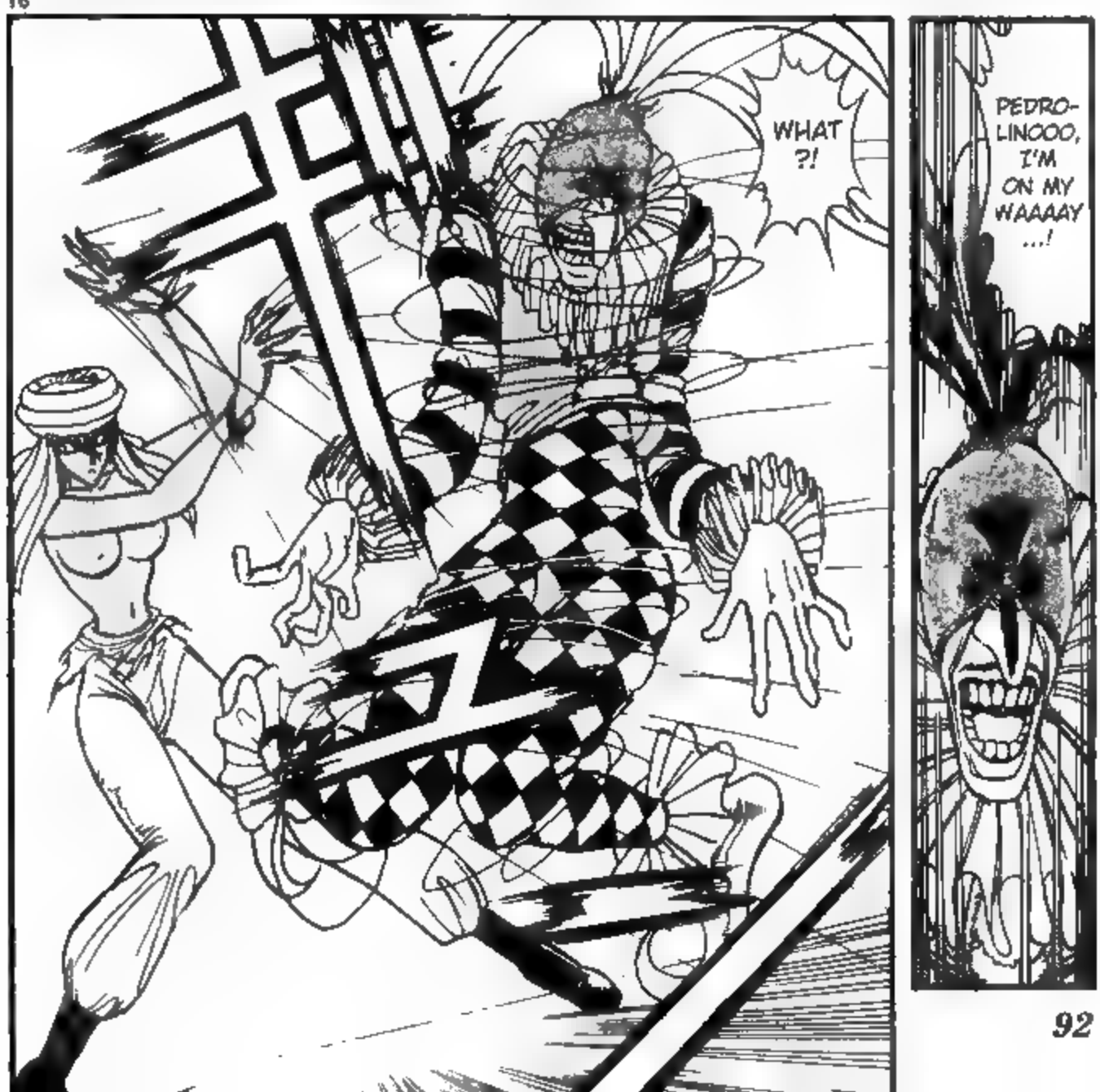

B-BLACK-HAIRED ... WO-MAAN ...!


IMBECILES. THEY FELL RIGHT INTO A TRAP.


I SEE... THE FLOOR WAS READY TO CRUMBLE THANKS TO THE STINGERS THAT FATIMA'S MARIO-NETTE LAUNCHED EARLIER ON...


YEAH, I GUESS NOT
UEH HEH, UEH HEH HEH HEH ...!
I... I WON'T BE TAKEN OUT... BY A BLOW LIKE THAT ...!

16


WHAT ?!
PEDRO-LINOOO, I'M ON MY WAAAAY ...!


WAS UNDER-ESTI-MATING WOMEN.
YOUR MISTAKE ...
17
SORRY, BUT...
SO YOUR NAME'S PEDRO OR WHAT-EVER?
I- I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, BIG BRO ...!
G-GET ME OUT OF THIS ...!
P-PEDRO-LINOOOO ...!


YOU REALLY ...
JUST AREN'T MY TYPE!

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Act 16
Downward









3

HE'S STILL MOVING, MING-XIAAAA !!

ONE DOWN, ONE TO GO.

!!

MING-HAI?

2

PEDRO-LINOOO ...!!


GRRR ...!
GRAAH ...!!
I'M TAKING YOU DOWN WITH ME, BLACK-HAIRED WOMAAAN ...!!


GAH... HAH...
BLACK ... HAIRED ...
6
MING-XIA!
H-HEY, YOU . ARE YOU READY TO BE UP AND MOVING?
SHUT UP, MING-HAI. THIS IS... NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT...
DAMN... I THINK I BROKE MY LEFT ARM AND A FEW RIBS.


I'LL START WITH YOU, TURBAN GIRL!
I'LL AVENGE YOU, PEDRO-LINO!
DAMN IIIIT ...!
!
ガヴーン

6




IS WIND THESE THREADS UP AND REEL YOU IN. .'
FOOL! DID YOU THINK I COULDN'T MOVE?! ALL I HAVE TO DO...


GGH...!


FATIMA! YOU HAVE TO TAKE OFF THOSE FINGER CAPS!
H-HOLD OOON ...!
BESIDES THEY SEEM TO BE STUCK TO YOUR FINGERS PRETTY WELL
HEE HEE HEE. CAN YOU REALLY PULL BACK BOTH YOUR HANDS TO DO THAT?

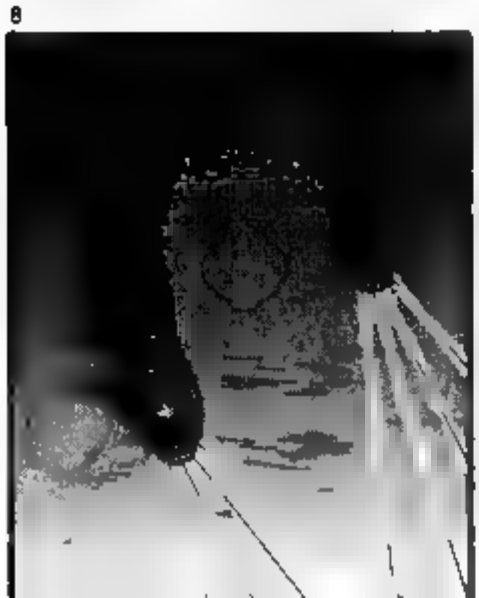

THERE, THE THREADS ARE ALL WOUND UP.
MAYBE I'LL RIP OFF YOUR HEAD AND LEAVE IT ON TOP OF MY OWN AS A DECORATION ...!


WHAAAT ...?


I WAS THE ONLY THING... THAT YOU REELED IN JUST NOW, ORAZIO ...?
...DO YOU THINK THAT...


.....
OH...? WHAT'S THAT...? PLEADING FOR YOUR LIFE, ARE YOU?

8




THOSE ARE ...?!
THOSE ...
THOSE AAARE ...!!
THREADS TO MANIPULATE A MARIONETTE ...!!


KEEHH ...!




YOU TOOK ME LIGHTLY UNTIL THE VERY END ...
YOU OUGHT TO BE KIND TO WOMEN, ORAZIO.


SO I'D BRING YOUR MARIO-NETTE ALONG TOO ...?!
YOU LET ME REEL YOU IN...




EVEN THOUGH ... YOU'RE JUST A WO-MAN,
WO-MAN ...!


AND THAT IS HOW ...
YOU LET ME WIN ....!


WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT IMPALED
OH, THIS ISN'T ENOUGH TO...
Oh, my


F-FATIMA, ARE YOU OKAY?!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, MISS MING-XIA?


HEY, ARE YOU OKAY ?!
カ!!!ン
OH, MAN, THERE'S A TON OF BLOOD ...
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?! COME GIVE US A HAND OVER HERE!
M-MR. NARU-MI...
ぼふ

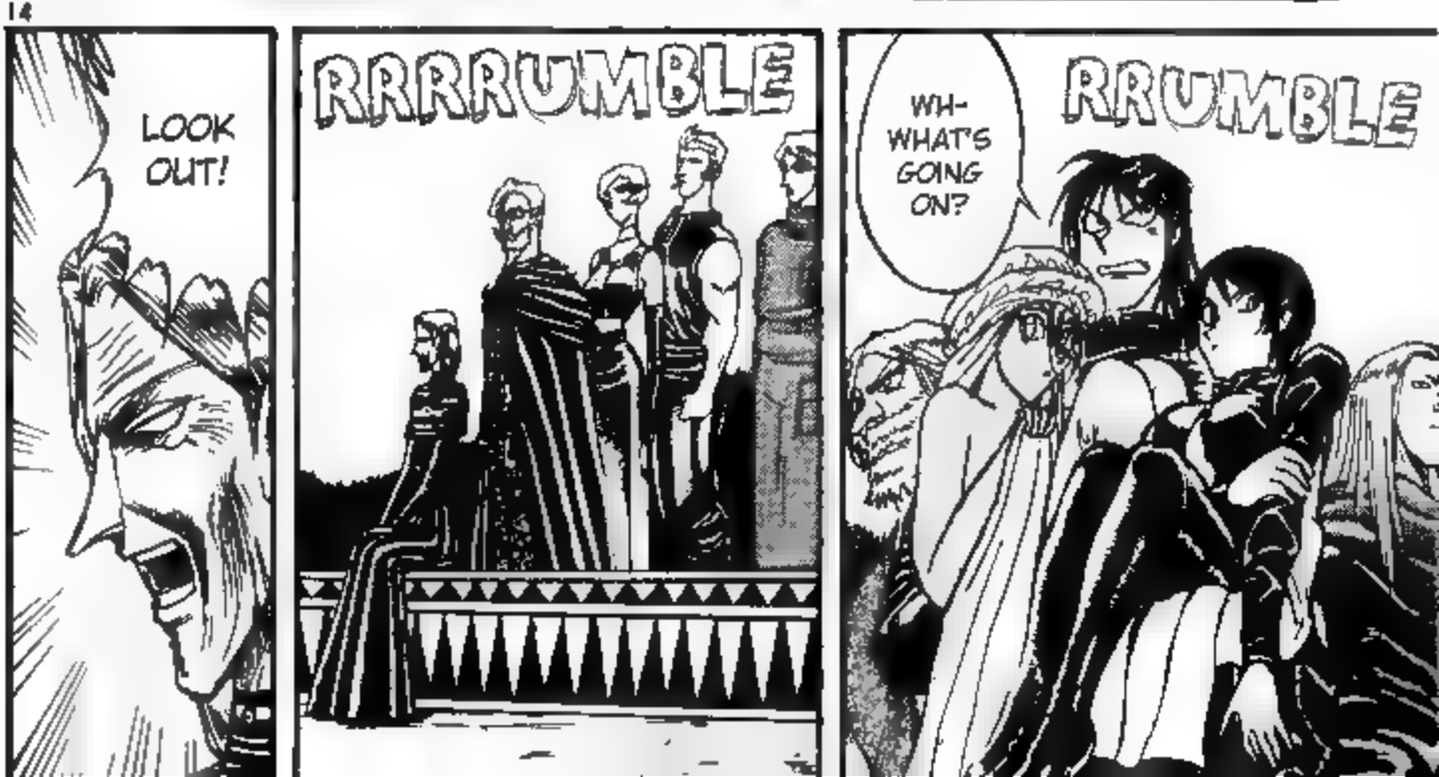

SO YOU'RE FINALLY UP, MING-HAI!
HOW LONG WERE YOU PLANNING TO LIE AROUND LIKE AN IDIOT?!
EXCUSE ME?! YOU HIT MY RENZHONG PRESSURE POINT! I COULDA BEEN OUT FOR GOOD, MING-XIA!
ER, I CAN STAND ON MY OWN...
EXCUSE ME! WE HAD TO TAKE CARE OF THIS BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T BE COUNTED ON!


ER... I AM A SHIROGANE, SO THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME ...
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! PUT ME DOWN, MING-HAI!
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE SOME LITTLE KID JUST BECAUSE I'M A WOMAN!


EEK!
YOU'RE ALWAYS ...
カ!!!ン
ぱ


JEEZ, YOU'RE LOUD!
PIPE DOWN, WOULD YA?
AH... OWOW-OWOW!
SEE?!
AND YOU TOO! EVEN IF YOU'RE A SHIROGANE, YOU STILL NEED TO REST.
YOU'RE WAY TOO YOUNG TO BE DYING, 'KAY?
EVEN IF YOU ARE SUPER STRONG!


AND SO THE SECOND MATCH ...
ENDS IN VICTORY FOR THE SHIRO-GANE SIDE.
BRAVO! SPLENDID WORK!
R-RIGHT ...
FOR THE THIRD MATCH, LET US MOVE ON TO A NEW VENUE.
AND SO
IT WAS QUITE A FINE MATCH, IN MY OPINION.
OUR SIDE IS VERY PLEASED AS WELL.


LOOK OUT!
RRRRUMBLE
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON?
RRUMBLE



/15

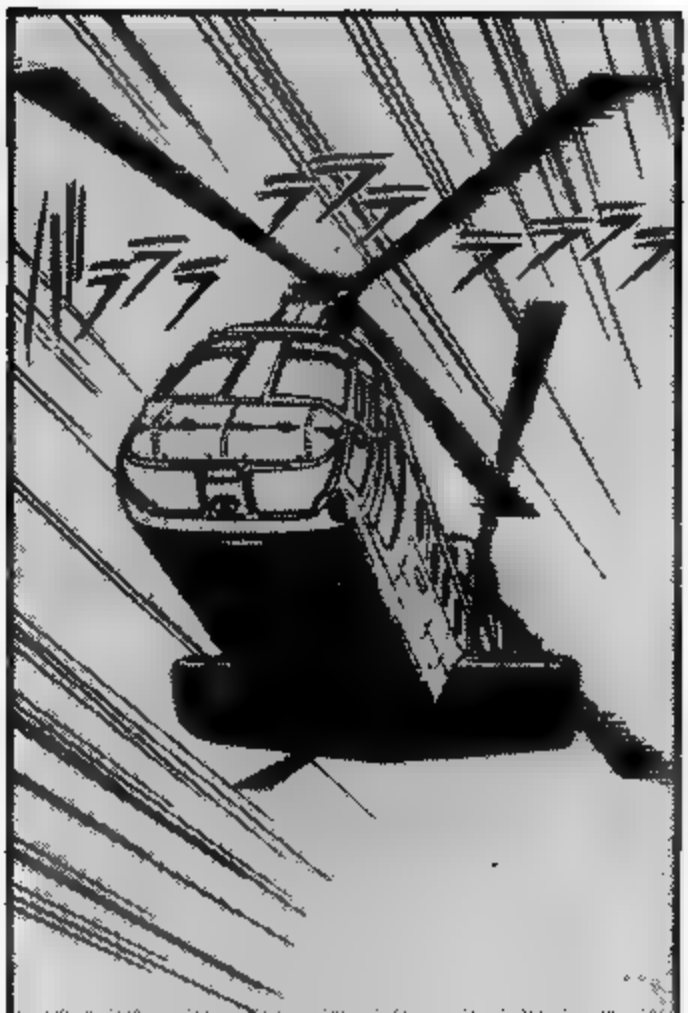

WHOAAH...!
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16





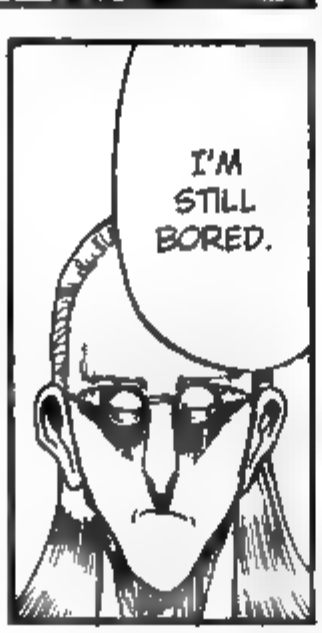



YOU'RE A MAN OF STRANGE WHIMS AS WELL, ASHIHANA.
MAKING YET ANOTHER FLASHY TRIP, I SEE... GEORGE-SAN.


"YOU'RE BORED, AREN'T YOU? IF YOU COME WITH ME, YOU MAY DISCOVER A WHOLE NEW WORLD..."
WHEN Y'GAVE ME THAT INVITATION, WHAT WAS IT Y'SAID, GEORGE-SAN...?


YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN PERFECTLY WELL SERVED TO REMAIN QUIETLY IN JAPAN.
AFTER I PICKED UP THIS PACKAGE FROM YOUR VILLAGE...
YOUR ROLE IN THIS WAS FINISHED.


GEORGE-SAN, THERE'S STILL MORE OF THIS NEW WORLD, ISN'T THERE?


I'M STILL BORED.


DEAR SHIROGANE FRIENDS ...
YOUR THROATS MUST BE QUITE DRY BY NOW.
koff
koff
オオオオ
WHY NOT REMAIN HERE FOR A SHORT INTERVAL?
BOTH FOOD AND DRINK WILL BE FREELY AVAILABLE.


THE OTHERS WILL BE JOINING US SOON ...
SO WHY DON'T YOU REST HERE A WHILE?

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オオオ
WELCOME. THANK YOU FOR VISITING US.
THIS IS TO BE THE VENUE FOR THE THIRD MATCH.
HOWEVER, UNTIL THEN, WHAT DO YOU SAY TO A SHORT INTERMISSION?



Act 17

Intermission


WE'RE NOT THE ONES WHO NEED A REST, JUST FOR THE RECORD
LOOKS LIKE IT.
TIME FOR A LITTLE REST, EH ?
NOW PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ASK OF US WHATEVER YOU WISH.


FORGET ABOUT THE DRINKS. DO YA HAVE ANYTHING HERE LIKE A BED OR WHATEVER?
MING-XIA AND FATIMA ARE BOTH HURT PRETTY BAD... THIS ISN'T GOOD, THERE'S NO WAY TO TREAT 'EM.
WELL ...


WELL THAT'S WHAT THEY SAY, BUT ..


MISS MING-XIA, YOU HAVE BROKEN BONES, DO YOU NOT? YOU SHOULD NOT BE MOVING ...
hah
hah
hah
CAN WE... REALLY TRUST THEM?


WH-
WHAT
THE
HELL
?!
ハッ!
3

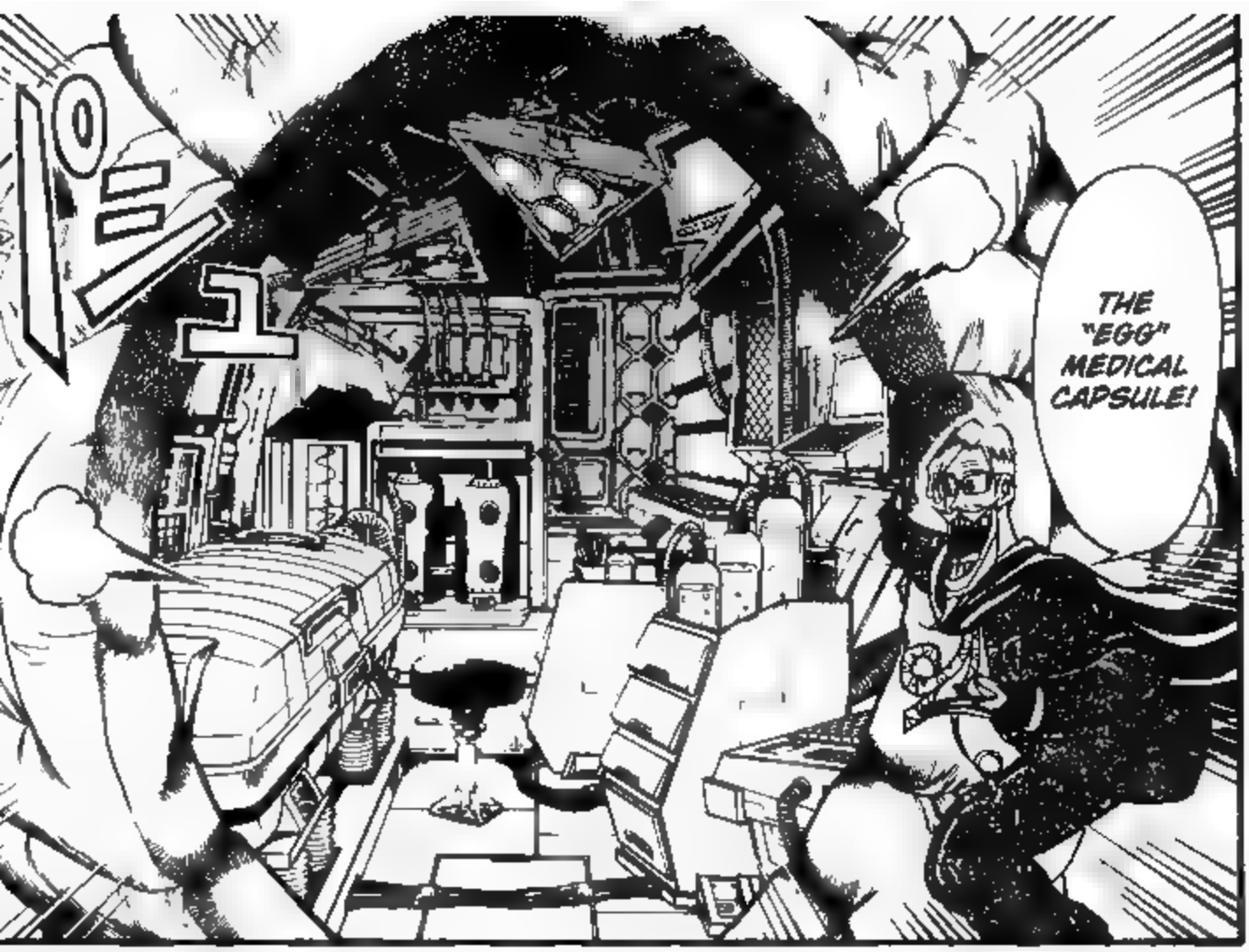

DAHL, TOR, WE HAVE YOUR CASES HERE.
SO-RRY FOR THE TROU-BLE.
WELL, IT'S NOT THAT BAD.
SOME "NTER-MISSION" THING. IT'S RIDI-CULOUS.
WHAT'S UP?
WH-WHAT IS THAT THING?

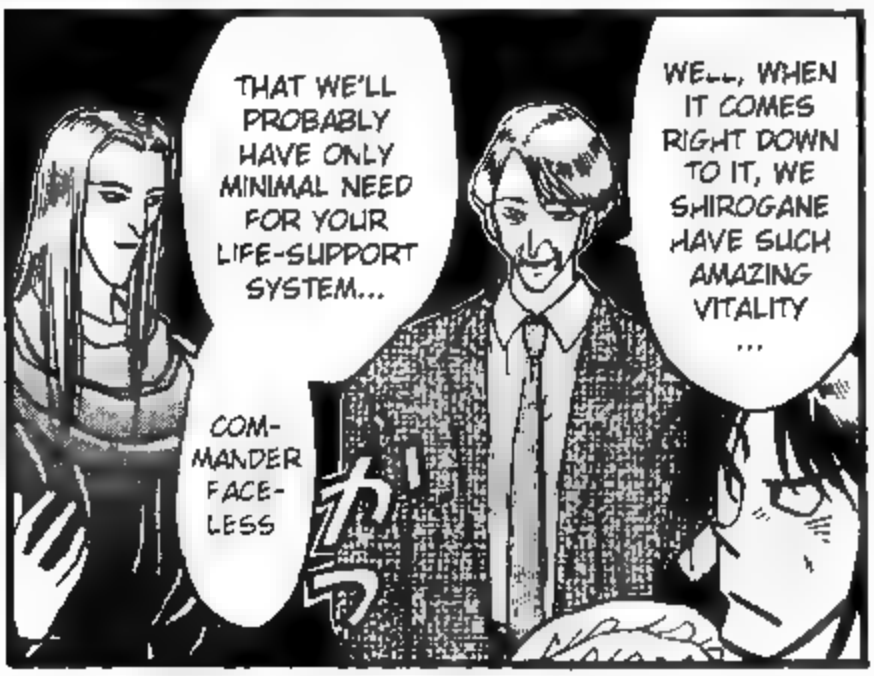

O-OKAY.
HURRY UP AND DO IT!


LUCILLE... BY "THERE" YOU MEAN IN THAT BALLOON THING?
NARUMI, DON'T JUST STAND AROUND STARING. GET MING-XIA AND FATIMA IN THERE, QUICKLY.


THIS IS...
NARUMI, WOULD YOU KINDLY PUT THE YOUNG LADIES INSIDE?


HEY ...
JUST WHAT IS THAT TH NG?
YES, WELL ...
THIS IS FINALLY GOING TO COME IN HANDY, LUCILLE.
SHEESH... I WANTED TO USE IT EARLIER, BUT THOSE SHIROGANE-O WENT ALL TO PIECES BEFORE I COULD DO ANYTHING WITH IT!


THE "EGG" MEDICAL CAPSULE!

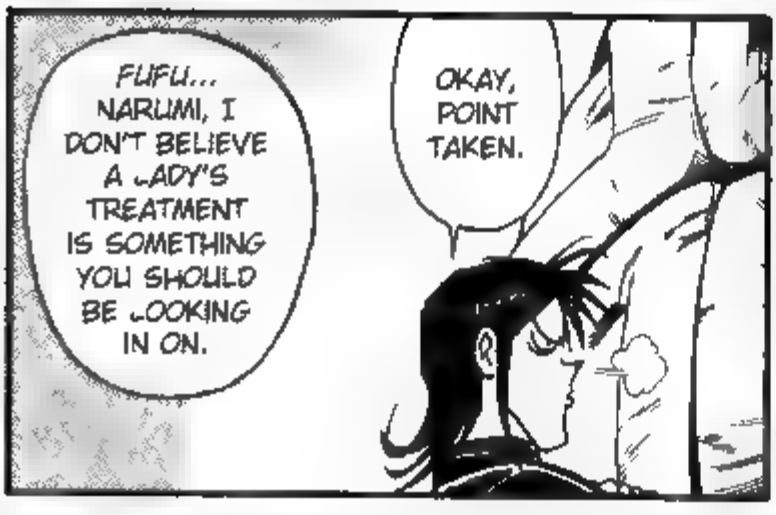

WELL, WHEN IT COMES RIGHT DOWN TO IT, WE SHIROGANE HAVE SUCH AMAZING VITALITY ...
THAT WE'LL PROBABLY HAVE ONLY MINIMAL NEED FOR YOUR LIFE-SUPPORT SYSTEM...
COM-MANDER FACE-LESS
カッ


I DIDN'T KNOW YOU'D BROUGHT SOMETHING LIKE THIS ALONG...
ISN'T IT AMAZING? IT'S QUITE SMALL, BUT YOU CAN STILL PERFORM NEARLY ANY KIND OF TREATMENT OR SURGERY.


DON'T BE SUCH WET BLANKETS, YOU TWO!
IT MAY NOT BE UP TO YOUR PROFES-SIONAL STANDARDS, BUT IT'S STILL PRETTY DARNED NEAT!
NO, THAT WASN'T A COM-PLAINT ...
WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXAMINE THE FAMOUS EGG, FOR OUR OWN REFER-ENCE.


I DON'T THINK THIS PINE-APPLE HAS ANY ROOM FOR VISI-TORS.
MING-XIA, FATIMA, ARE YOU DOING OKAY?


IN THAT CASE, I GUESS I CAN SPARE SOME TIME LATER...
TO CHAT WITH OUR DOCTOR DUO FROM ENGLAND AND GERMANY.


FUFU... NARUMI, I DON'T BELIEVE A LADY'S TREATMENT IS SOMETHING YOU SHOULD BE LOOKING IN ON.
OKAY, POINT TAKEN.


YOU MAY REMAIN OUT HERE.


OH, NO, I DON'T NEED IT BACK.
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU LENT ME YOUR HANDKER-CHIEF, DIDN'T YOU? SORRY, I LOST IT.


WE SHIROGANE DO NOT SWEAT.

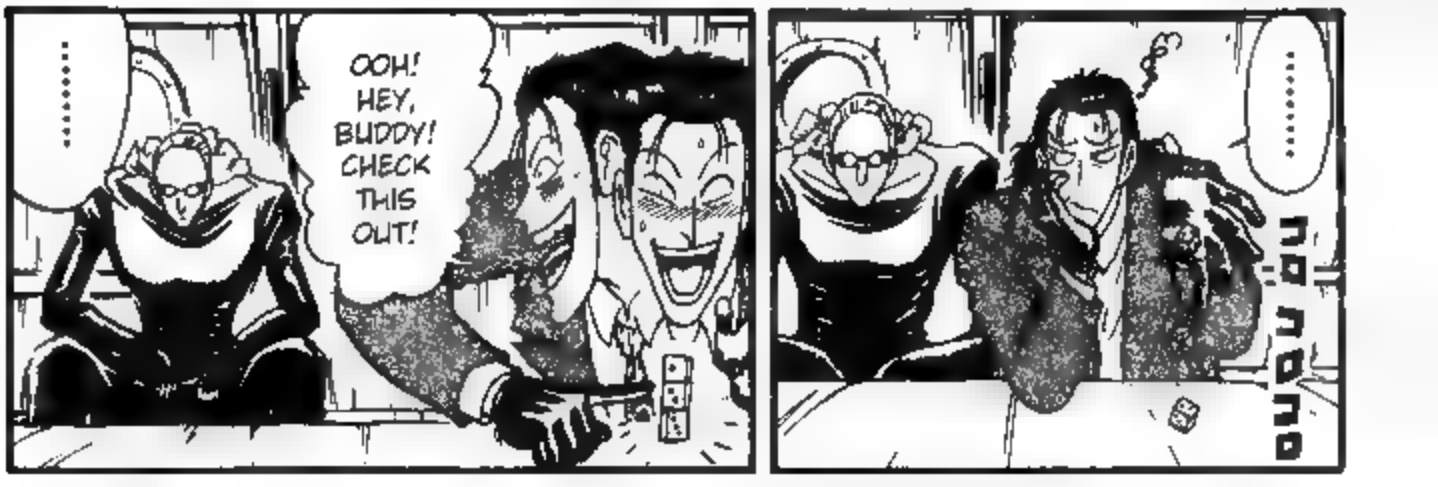

STEVE ROCKEN-FIELD. I TEACH MEDICINE AT A UNIVER-SITY IN ENGLAND.
MY NAME IS SCHWARZES TOR. I PRACTICE MEDICINE IN GERMANY.
WE HAVE NOT YET INTRO-DUCED OUR-SELVES.
OH... YOU GUYS ARE ...


IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE LAST SHARED A DRINK, PROFESSOR ROCKEN-FIELD.
THAT IT HAS, DR. TOR. I BELIEVE IT WAS AT THAT ACADEMIC CONFERENCE IN DRESDEN.
WELL, WE RARELY GET THIS KIND OF CHANCE... SO WHY DON'T WE TALK FOR A BIT OVER THERE?
FUFU, YOUR FACE TELLS ME THAT YOU'RE THINKING, "I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THESE MONSTERS!"
.....
YOU TWO ... KNOW EACH OTHER?
THOUGH IT IS TRULY STRANGE THAT THIS TIME SHOULD BE HERE IN THE AUTOMATA'S TENT, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT...
DID YOU THINK THAT SHIROGANE DON'T HAVE FRIENDS?
YES. WE HAVE BEEN FRIENDS FOR 70 YEARS.


ハラララ


.....
SO Y'SEE, I WAS RAISED BY PUPPETEERS INSTEAD OF BY MY PARENTS...
きゅっ
きゅっ


C'MON, NOW, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
HUMANS NEED COMMUNI-CATION!
C'mon! Speak up!
WHAT ABOUT MYSELF COULD I POSSIBLY WISH TO DISCUSS WITH YOU?
SO, HOW 'BOUT YOU, BUDDY ...?
.....
.....


OOH! HEY, BUDDY! CHECK THIS OUT!
.....
.....
no no no


I'M NOT ASKIN' YA TO POUR YOUR HEART OUT, HERE.
HMPH... OF COURSE NOT. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
POUR MY HEART OUT, INDEED.
BUDDY, I KNOW WE'RE NOT THE BEST OF FRIENDS... BUT D'YOU REALLY NOT FEEL LIKE CHATTIN' EVEN A LITTLE BIT?


LIKE I SAID, I'M NOT ASKIN' YA TO GO THAT FAR ...
バラララ
THAT "FRIENDSHIP" DOES NOT EXIST AMONG THE SHIRO-GANE-O.
LET ME TELL YOU NOW ...


THAT IS ENOUGH, DAHL.
WELL ?! ARE YOU LISTE-NING TO ME ?!
I TOLD YOU, THE BLOOD WAS RUSHIN' TO MY HEAD, TOO.
I SAID I WAS SORRY, DIDN'T I?
MY BLOOD STILL BOILS WITH THE THIRST FOR BATTLE!
SHUT UP, TOR! BECAUSE THIS GUY WALTZED IN THERE AND TOOK OVER..
WHAT WAS THAT, ASS-HOLE ?!
YOU MIGHT'VE JUST KEPT ON DOING THAT, RIGHT?
BESIDES... IF I HADN'T STEPPED IN, YOU GUYS WERE SO GUNG-HO TO RUSH OFF TO YOUR DEATHS ...


ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, NARUMI?
DON'T MAKE THE MISTAKE OF THINKING WE'RE LIKE THOSE EMOTIONLESS SHIROGANE-O!
DAHL!


SHUT THE HELL UP!
WITH THOSE USELESS REGULAR SHIRO-GANE.
WE MAY NOT HAVE MANY EMOTIONS LEFT, BUT WE STILL PREFER NOT TO BE GROUPED ...
WE SHIROGANE-O DON'T CARE FOR THAT EITHER.
KUKU... HE'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW.

10


WHAT'S THE MATTER, TIMBAVATI?!
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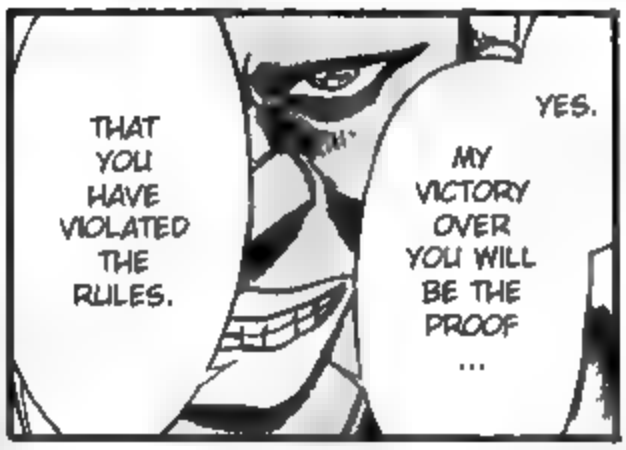

WELL?! DON'T YOU GET IT?! YOU'RE A SHIROGANE JUST LIKE US!
I CAN TELL BY YOUR LOOK THAT YOU THINK YOU'RE SPECIAL! AND I WON'T STAND FOR IT!


YOU HAVE GOOD CAUSE TO BE ANGRY WITH NARUMI, DAHL.
I, AS WELL, AM UNABLE TO FORGIVE HIM FOR BREAKING OUR RULES.
AT SUCH TIMES, MATTERS SHOULD BE RESOLVED LIKE MEN.
DAHL, DO YOU VIKINGS OF THE NORTH DO BATTLE BY FLAPPING YOUR JAWS ...
AND STRIKING AN OPPONENT WHO WILL NOT FIGHT BACK?
WHAT'S THAT?! ARE YOU TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT?!
POMPOUS ASSHOLE!
THE PROPER METHOD IS...
POW-ER!


SO YOU'RE THE FIRST CHALLENGER, HUH, TIMBAVATI?
WAIT YOUR TURN, THEN.


KEH...! THEN, HE AND I SHOULD BE THE ONES TO—


KNOCK YOURSELF OUT.
SURE . .


THAT YOU HAVE VIOLATED THE RULES.
YES. MY VICTORY OVER YOU WILL BE THE PROOF ...

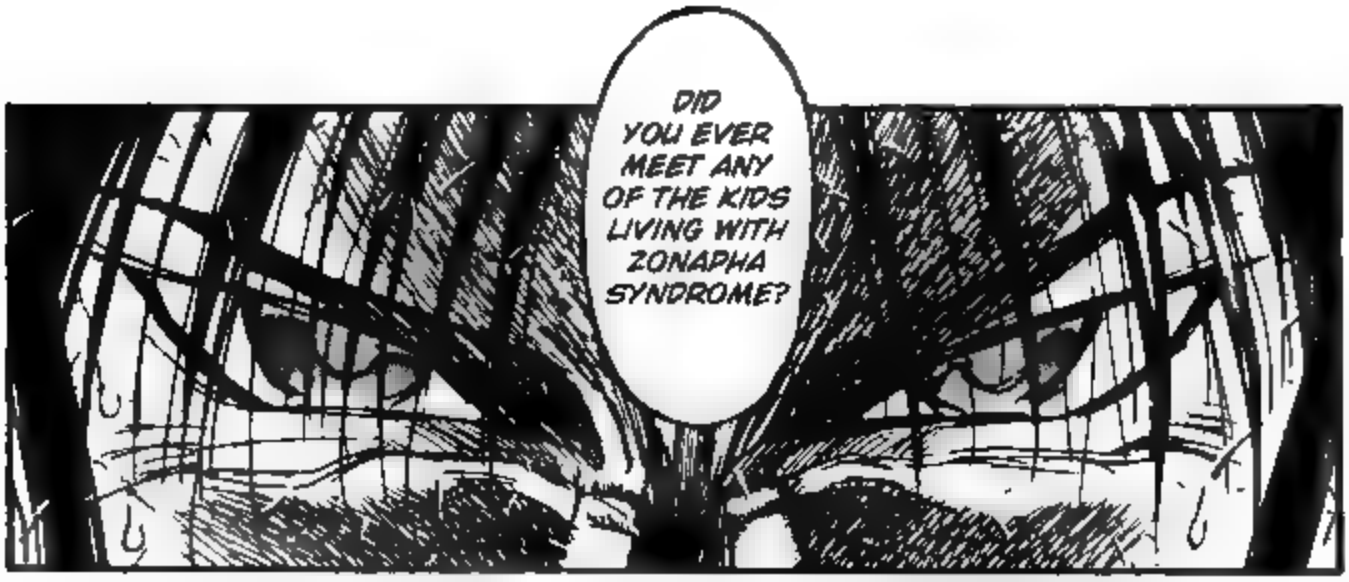

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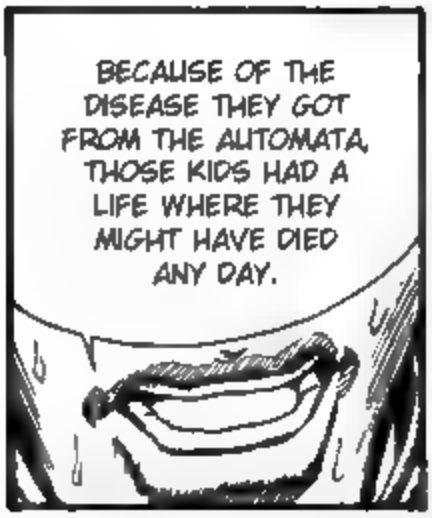

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THIS IS A FAIRLY CHILDISH METHOD AS WELL, BUT I SUPPOSE THERE'S NO STOPPING THEM
AS LONG AS IT CALMS THEM DOWN




WHAT'S WRONG, JAPANESE?
ARE YOU GOING TO TRY TO TELL ME YOU'RE STILL TIRED OUT FROM FIGHTING?
DID YOU ... NO ...
DID ANY OF YOU SHIROGANE ...


DID YOU EVER MEET ANY OF THE KIDS LIVING WITH ZONAPHA SYNDROME?

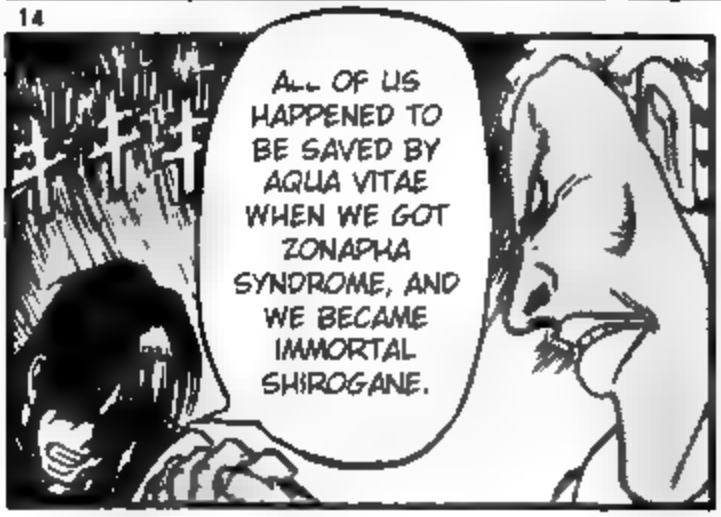

BECAUSE OF THE DISEASE THEY GOT FROM THE AUTOMATA, THOSE KIDS HAD A LIFE WHERE THEY MIGHT HAVE DIED ANY DAY.




HMM?


YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT THEM TO BE ABLE TO SMILE AT ALL, BUT THOSE KIDS KEPT SMILING SO BRIGHTLY.


EVEN AFTER LOSING THEIR PARENTS ... THEY GAVE IT ALL THEY HAD ...
THEY LIVED WITH ALL OF THEIR MIGHT.
BUT DESPITE THAT... NO, BECAUSE OF IT...


ALL OF US HAPPENED TO BE SAVED BY AQUA VITAE WHEN WE GOT ZONAPHA SYNDROME, AND WE BECAME IMMORTAL SHIROGANE.




WHAT IS YOUR POINT?
WE WERE FREED FROM THE CURSE OF ZONAPHA SYNDROME... AND WE BEGAN TO FIGHT THE ALITOMATA ...


WELL, DAHL, THEY SAY TIMBAVATI'S BRUTE STRENGTH IS COMPARABLE TO YOURS. IT'S LIKELY IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO WIN REGARDLESS
ARE YOU GONNA FINISH HIM OFF OR NOT?!
AHH, DON'T ASK HIM TO KEEP TALKING!

15


ARE WORTHLESS, IF WE'RE NOT USING THEM TO FIGHT ON BEHALF OF THOSE LITTLE KIDS... RIGHT...?
BECAUSE OF THAT... THESE LIVES OF OURS...
SO ...


TO ME, IT LOOKS AN AWFUL LOT LIKE YOU GUYS ARE WASTING THEM FOR YOUR OWN GOALS.
IS THAT YOUR POINT? THAT'S ALL...?
AND THOSE SHIROGANE-O GUYS... THEY WENT ON AND ON ABOUT HOW STRONG THEY WERE, AND THEY DIED STILL GOING ON ABOUT IT!
DAHL, YOU SAID YOUR BLOOD WON'T STOP BOILING UNLESS YOU GET TO FIGHT.
16
OUR LIVES BELONG TO THOSE CHILDREN ...!
"IF YOU LOSE, YOU SHOULD DIE"...?
THAT'S NOT HOW IT SHOULD BE, IS IT ...?
...THIS MAN...!


FUCK THAT! WHAT KIND OF SELF-INDULGENT BULLSHIT FIGHT ARE YOU GUYS PUTTING UP HERE?!
ゴゴゴゴ
17


...?
...SHE LAU-GHED ...


TO BECOME SO ANGRY ...?
WHAT WAS IT THAT CAUSED YOU...


TELL ME... ONE THING ...
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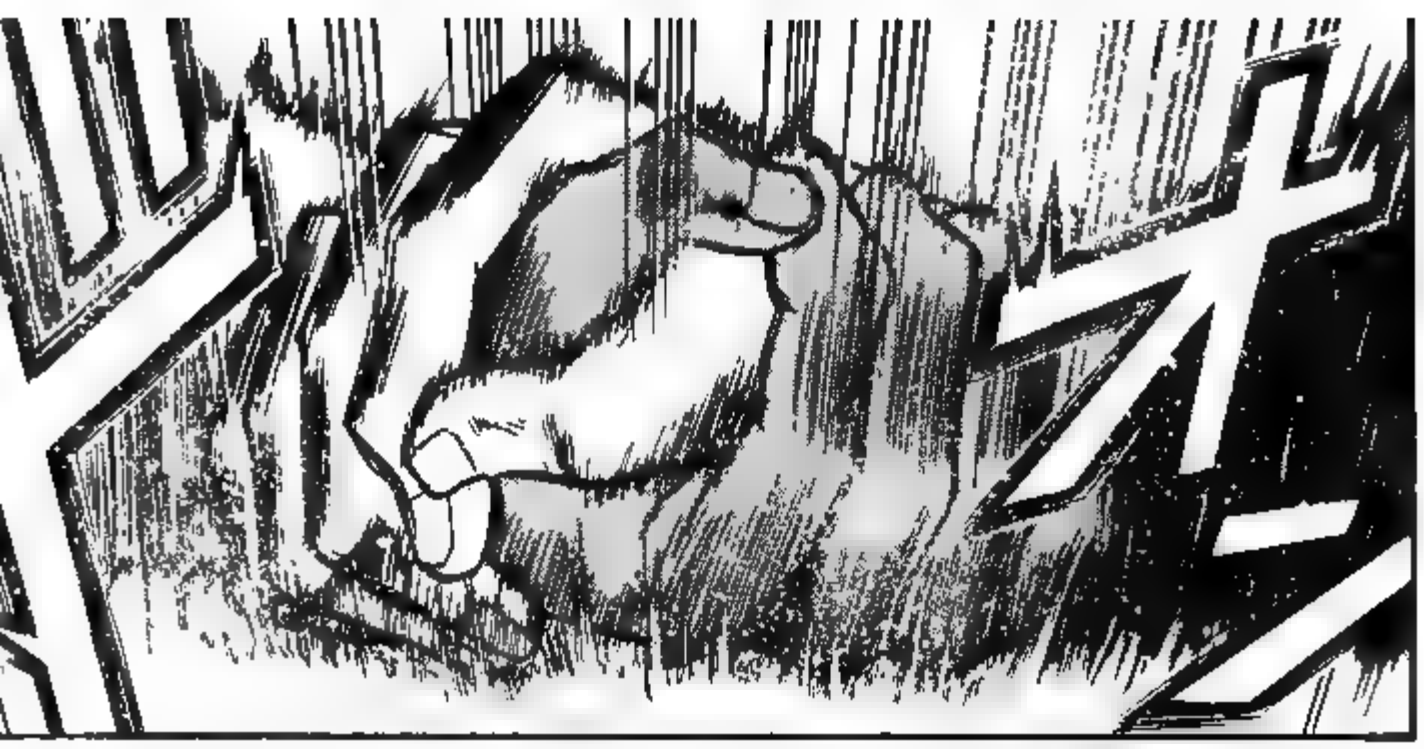

SHIROGANE ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM ZONAPHA SYNDROME ITSELF...
IF WE SPIT THAT MEDI-CINE OUT LIKE THAT!
LAUGH-TER IS THE ONLY MEDICINE FOR ZONAPHA SYN-DROME !!
THAT SHIRO-GANE-O WOMAN WAS LAUGHING BEFORE SHE DIED.

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

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Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves



Act 18
Intermission, and the Third Match






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2


I HAVE LOST, NARUMI.
AS PROMISED, I SHALL TRUST THAT YOU ARE IN THE RIGHT.
HOLD ON A SECOND, TIMBA-VATI.
YOU DELIBE-RATELY HELD BACK AT THE LAST MOMENT ...


KEH! I COULDN'T BE PROUD OF BEATING SOMEONE WHO'S ALREADY WORN OUT!
.....
I NEVER HOLD BACK MY HAND IN A BATTLE BETWEEN MEN.
DAHL, WE ARE FINISHED. YOU MAY CHALLENGE HIM NEXT IF YOU WISH.


TIMBAVATI MAY HAVE BEEN CONVINCED BY THAT FARCE, BUT NOT ME!


YOU'VE SURE GOT A KNACK FOR WINNING PEOPLE OVER WITH YOUR WORDS. YOU PISS ME OFF!
HEY, YOU. THE ASSHOLE FROM JAPAN

3


JUST REMEM-BER ONE THING.
SHUT UP!
FINE BY ME.
YOU WANNA SLUG IT OUT?
すい


I DON'T LIKE YOU.
HEY, WAIT-RESS!
ONE IRISH WHIS-KEY.
YOU'VE BEEN WOR-KING HARD, NARU-MI.
I'LL BET YOU'D LIKE TO RELAX FOR A WHILE.
かっ
YEAH ...
I'LL HAVE A SCO-TCH.
HOW ABOUT YOU?
I'M FINE WITH WHAT-EVER.
MAKE IT TWO, THEN.
VERY WELL.
STILL... YOU ARE A MYSTERIOUS ONE, AREN'T YOU?


GA GH
I SUPPOSE WE MIGHT EXPECT AS MUCH FROM THE "LAST SHIROGANE" BROUGHT TO US BY GUY AND MADAME LUCILLE...
YOU EXPRESS YOUR ANGER OPENLY, AND THE INTENSITY OF YOUR EMOTION IS UNUSUAL FOR A SHIROGANE, MORE SO EVEN THAN DAHL'S.
WITH YOUR SKILL IN THE MARTIAL ARTS, YOU WERE ABLE TO DEFEAT DOLLS FOR WHICH EVEN THE SHIROGANE-O PROVED NO MATCH.

YOU DON'T HANDLE ALCOHOL WELL, DO YOU?
WHAT?! NO WAY, LOVE THE STUFF!
Bottoms up!
GHA GKHH HGHA KHF

5


MASTER ALWAYS USED TO GO, "HOW ABSURD! SUCH WEAKNESS!"
DAMMIT...! IT'S 'CAUSE YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO DRINK UNTIL YOU'RE 20 IN JAPAN ...!
OH ...?
ONE ORANGE JUICE, PLEASE.
LOOOM
WHOOSH


HUH? WELL, HOW OLD DO I LOOK, THEN?
WHAT?! YOU'RE ONLY 19 YEARS OLD?


UHHH, 18... NO, SEPTEMBER WAS A WHILE AGO, SO...
19, I GUESS ...
UNTIL YOU'RE 20? WAIT A MOMENT. HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?

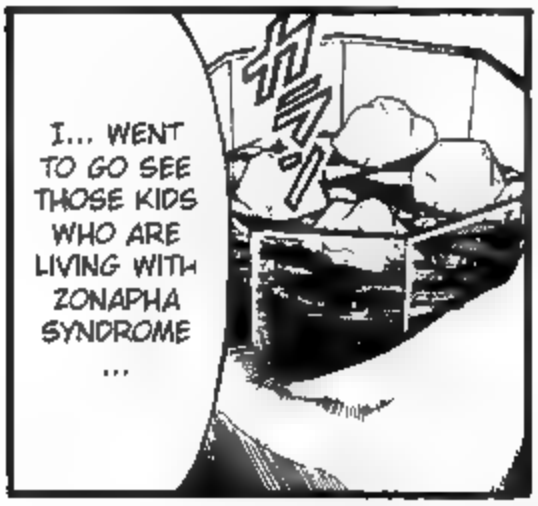

BUT I UNDER-STAND NOW ...
SORRY. IT'S JUST THAT YOU SEEM VERY MATURE.


I WOULD HAVE SAID... 28 OR SO...
Tw... Twenty... eight...

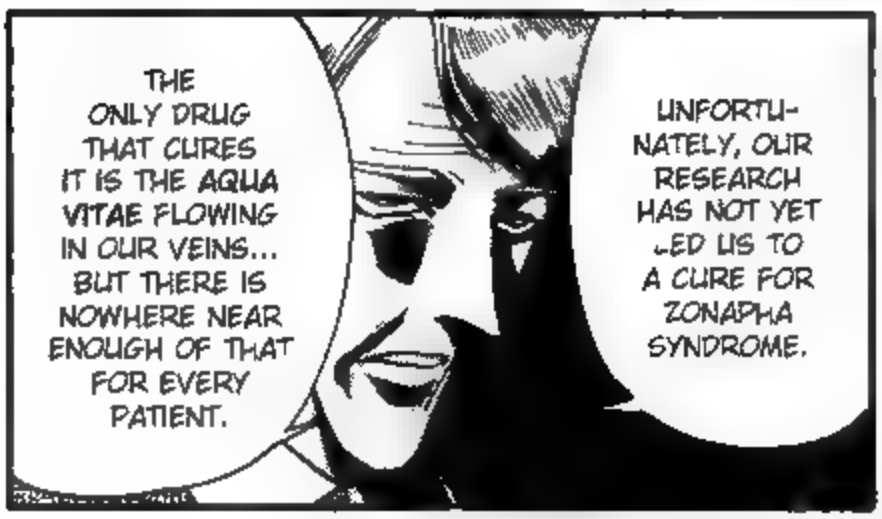

THE REASON YOU'VE DEVOTED YOUR LIFE TO THEM...
THE REASON YOU'RE SO FIXATED ON THOSE CHILDREN ...


BUT, YES... SINCE I'M A DOCTOR, I'VE PROBABLY SEEN MORE DEATH THAN MOST SHIROGANE.
JUST STEVE IS FINE, NARU-MI.


NO... I'M SURE THAT APPLIES MORE TO YOU THAN TO ME, MR. ROCKEN-FIELD.
DESPITE YOUR YOUTH, YOU MUST HAVE SEEN A GREAT MANY PAINFUL DEATHS.


I... WENT TO GO SEE THOSE KIDS WHO ARE LIVING WITH ZONAPHA SYNDROME ...


EVEN OUTSIDE OF YOU, MEDICINE IN GENERAL IS ALWAYS ADVANCING, ISN'T IT ?!
IF YOU'RE A DOCTOR WITH THE LIFESPAN OF A SHIROGANE, YOU MUST HAVE COME UP WITH SOME WAY TO TREAT ZONAPHA SYNDROME, RIGHT?!


THE ONLY DRUG THAT CURES IT IS THE AQUA VITAE FLOWING IN OUR VEINS... BUT THERE IS NOWHERE NEAR ENOUGH OF THAT FOR EVERY PATIENT.
UNFORTU-NATELY, OUR RESEARCH HAS NOT YET LED US TO A CURE FOR ZONAPHA SYNDROME.


IT'S TOO MUCH TO BEAR!
WE SHIROGANE GO ON LIVING, EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE CHILDREN DYING RIGHT NOW...!
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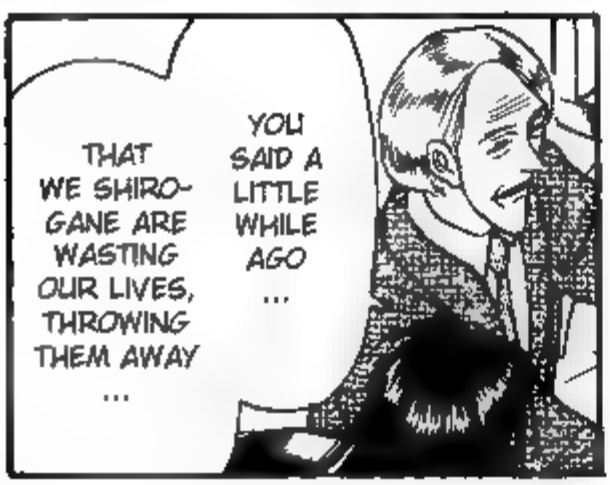

... CHILD-REN, EH ...?
SHIT!


A PHOTO ...?


THE BOYS ARE FROM MY WIFE'S FIRST HUSBAND, THOUGH.
THAT IS MY BELOVED FAMILY.
I LEFT THEM BACK IN ENGLAND.
THANK YOU.
... CUTE KIDS.
TO LIVE WITH OTHERS, AND STAY A PART OF SOCIETY AS MUCH AS WE CAN.
THERE ARE THOSE OF US WHO TRY TO BEGIN NEW LIVES DESPITE BEING SHIROGANE.
HA HA HA! YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW ANY SHIROGANE BESIDES GUY AND MADAME LUCILLE, DO YOU?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT ...
IT'S DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE TO LIVE SEPARATED FROM OTHERS, WITH NO REAL CONNECTIONS OR BONDS.
THOUGH WE SHIROGANE MAY NOW BE IMMORTAL BEINGS, WE WERE ORIGINALLY HUMANS.
...MADAME LUCILLE DOES NOT APPROVE OF THE PRACTICE MUCH, BUT...
AHAHA! WHEN IS IT?
NO, YOUR MAJESTY!
NO, HE PLAYS AN ORDINARY SOLDIER. HIS ONLY LINE S ..
OH, REALLY? IS HE GONNA BE THE LEAD?
RICHIE, MY YOUNGER SON, IS GOING TO BE IN A SCHOOL PLAY SOON.


YES ...
THAT'S TRUE ....

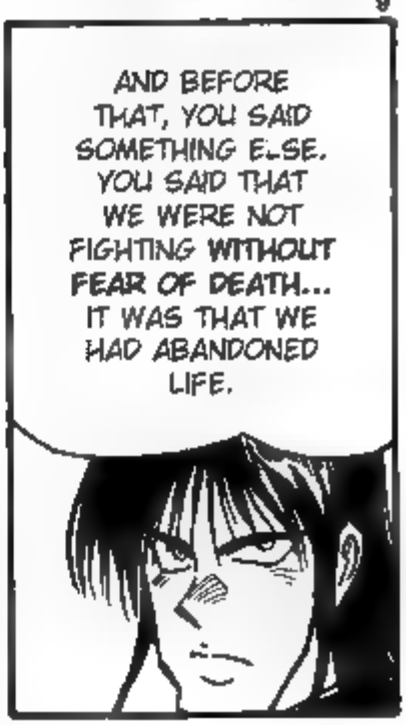

IT'S NEXT WEEK.
AS HIS FATHER, I WANT TO GO SEE IT.
THIS FIGHT'LL PROBABLY TAKE MORE THAN A DAY ...
YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO GO.


YOU SAID A LITTLE WHILE AGO ...
THAT WE SHIROGANE ARE WASTING OUR LIVES, THROWING THEM AWAY ...


I LIKE YOU, NARUMI. YOU'RE A VERY GOOD MAN.
SO THERE IS JUST ONE MISUNDERSTANDING I WOULD LIKE TO CLEAR UP.


THAT'S RIGHT. I CAME HERE FOR MY FAMILY.
I CAME TO DEFEAT THE DOLLS WHO ARE TRYING TO SPREAD ZONAPHA SYNDROME TO EVERY PERSON IN THE WORLD.


YEAH ... I DID.
BUT... I WOULD LIKE YOU TO LOOK AT ME. DO YOU THINK I AM HERE TO THROW MY LIFE AWAY?
NO, I...


AND BEFORE THAT, YOU SAID SOMETHING ELSE. YOU SAID THAT WE WERE NOT FIGHTING WITHOUT FEAR OF DEATH... IT WAS THAT WE HAD ABANDONED LIFE.


I WANT YOU TO UNDER-STAND THIS, NARUMI.
SHIRO-GANE ARE NOT DEAD PEOPLE WHO HAVE ABANDONED LIFE.
I HAVE PREPARED MYSELF FOR WHAT-EVER MAY COME.
BUT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF DYING.
AND IVANOV... THEY ARE ALL THE SAME.
TIM-BAVATI
TOR ...
DAHL ...


AND SEE THE AUTOMATA DESTROYED DOWN TO THE LAST OF THEIR RANKS.
HOPE TO SURVIVE THIS BATTLE ...
WE ALL, FOR OUR OWN VARIOUS REASONS ...


WE WHO HAVE BECOME UNDYING CLING TO IT, AS WE WOULD TO A WALKING STICK, BELIEVING THAT WE ARE STILL HUMAN.
WHEN THE DESIRE FOR REVENGE COURSES THROUGH OUR BLOOD ...
AND... ALSO...


IS THAT SO ...?
.....

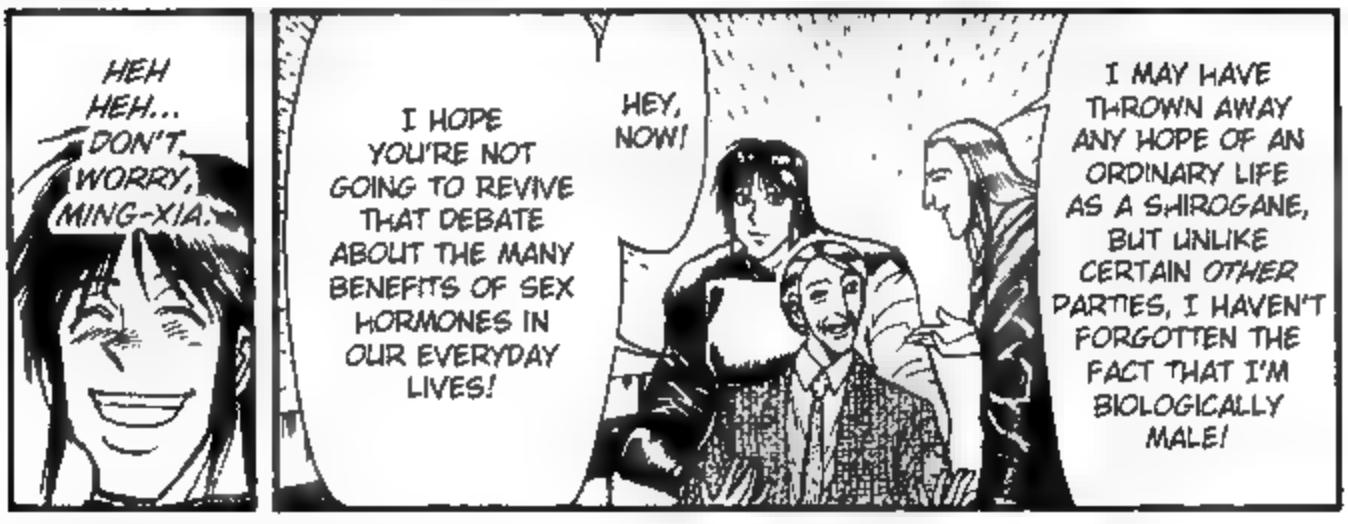

I HAVE ALSO COME HERE ...
FOR CHILD-REN.

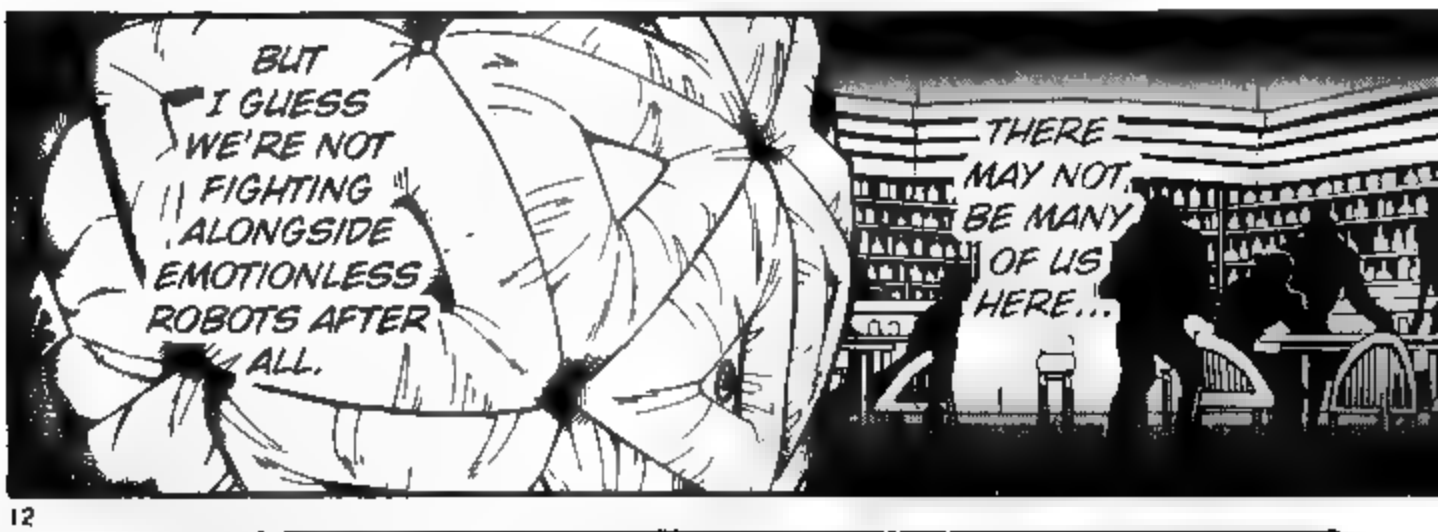

I WASN'T SURE I COULD GO ON FIGHTING THESE WIND-UP FREAKS IF I HAD TO BE CALLING MONSTERS LIKE YOU MY COMRADES...
I WAS THINKING THAT YOU SHIROGANE WERE MONSTERS ...
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT.


YES... I DO TRY TO BE...
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YOU'RE DEFINITELY HUMAN, STEVE.
BUT I GUESS I WAS WRONG.

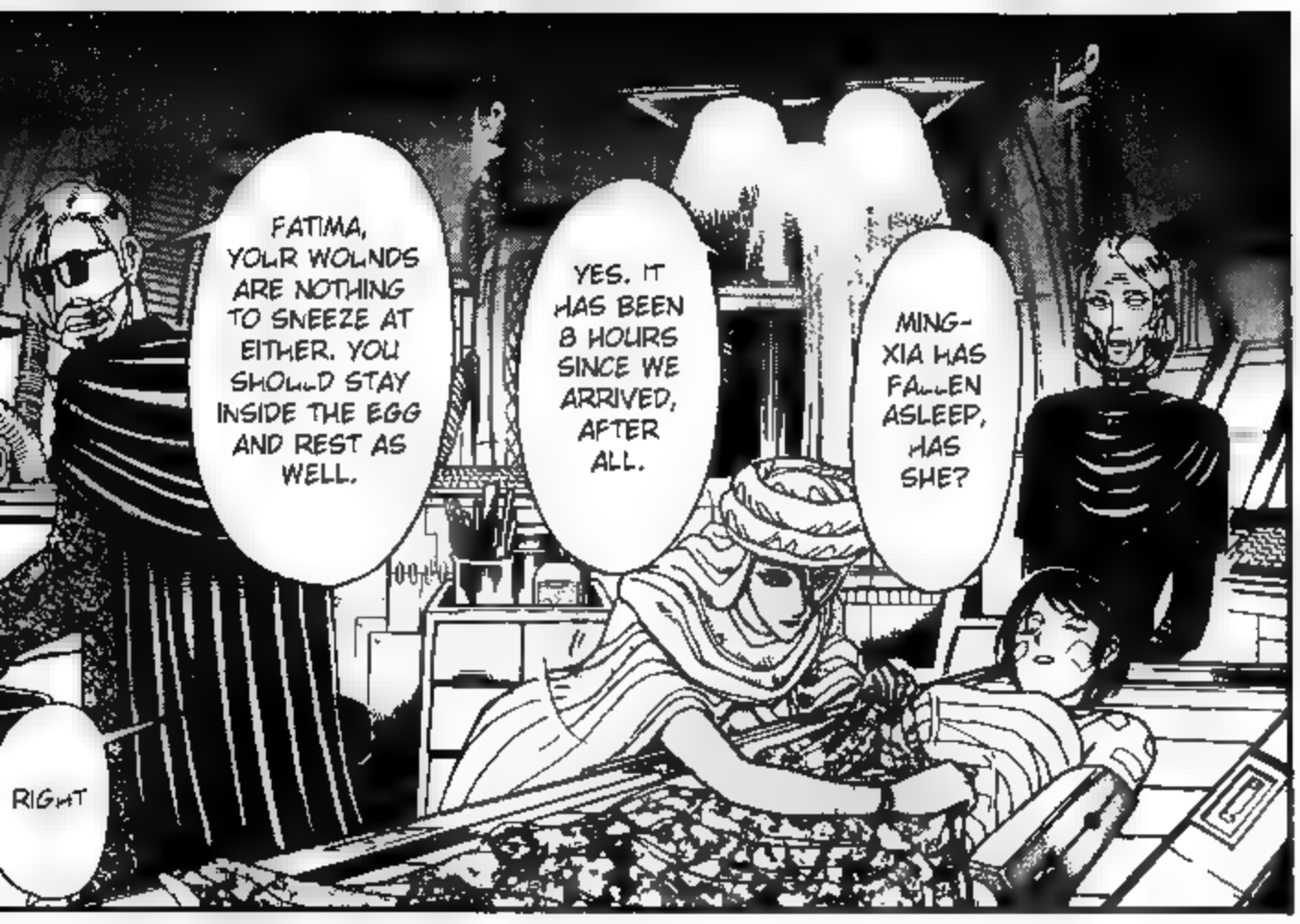

OH, IF IT ISN'T THE PRIVATE PHYSICIAN WITH THE REPUTATION FOR BEING A LITTLE *TOO* NICE TO HIS FEMALE PATIENTS.
OH... TOR-SAN.
WHAT ARE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT ALL BY YOURSELVES?
COME OVER AND JOIN THE REST OF US
OH, REALLY NOW.

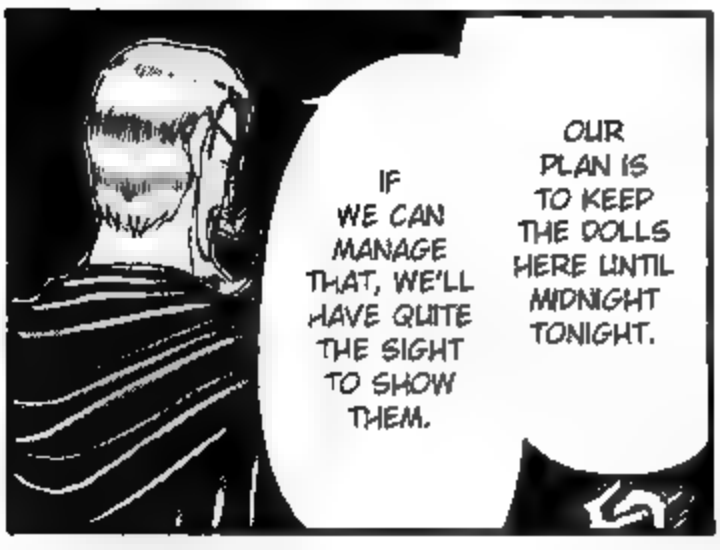

HEH HEH... DON'T WORRY, MING-XIA.
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT GOING TO REVIVE THAT DEBATE ABOUT THE MANY BENEFITS OF SEX HORMONES IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES!
HEY, NOW!
I MAY HAVE THROWN AWAY ANY HOPE OF AN ORDINARY LIFE AS A SHIROGANE, BUT UNLIKE CERTAIN *OTHER* PARTIES, I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN THE FACT THAT I'M BIOLOGICALLY MALE!

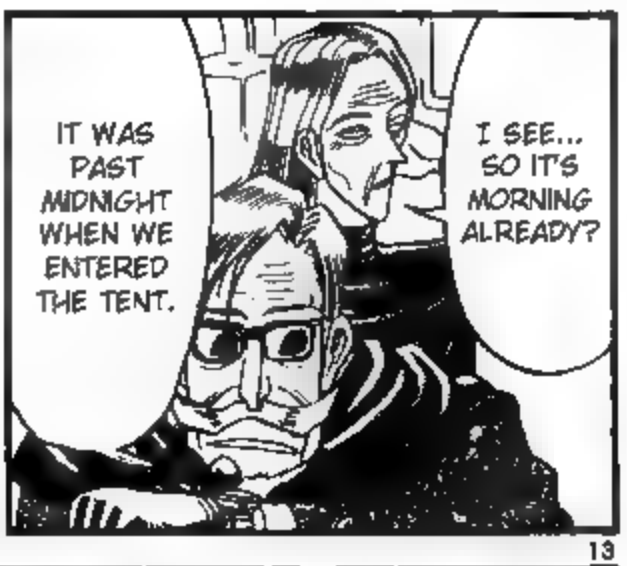

BUT I GUESS WE'RE NOT FIGHTING ALONGSIDE EMOTIONLESS ROBOTS AFTER ALL.
THERE MAY NOT BE MANY OF US HERE...

12




FATIMA, YOUR WOUNDS ARE NOTHING TO SNEEZE AT EITHER. YOU SHOULD STAY INSIDE THE EGG AND REST AS WELL.
YES. IT HAS BEEN 8 HOURS SINCE WE ARRIVED, AFTER ALL.
MING-XIA HAS FALLEN ASLEEP, HAS SHE?
RIGHT


IF WE CAN MANAGE THAT, WE'LL HAVE QUITE THE SIGHT TO SHOW THEM.
OUR PLAN IS TO KEEP THE DOLLS HERE UNTIL MIDNIGHT TONIGHT.


IT WAS PAST MIDNIGHT WHEN WE ENTERED THE TENT.
I SEE... SO IT'S MORNING ALREADY?

13


THERE ARE STILL 15 SHIRO-GANE LEFT. IT SHOULD WORK OUT SOMEHOW.
I WONDER IF THIS GAME WILL LAST US UNTIL MIDNIGHT.


AND THOSE FOUR LITTLE PESTS WITH YOUR OWN HANDS, NO?
BUT, YOU KNOW, LUCILLE, I'M SURE THAT YOU'D LIKE TO DESTROY FRANCINE ...
HMPH ..

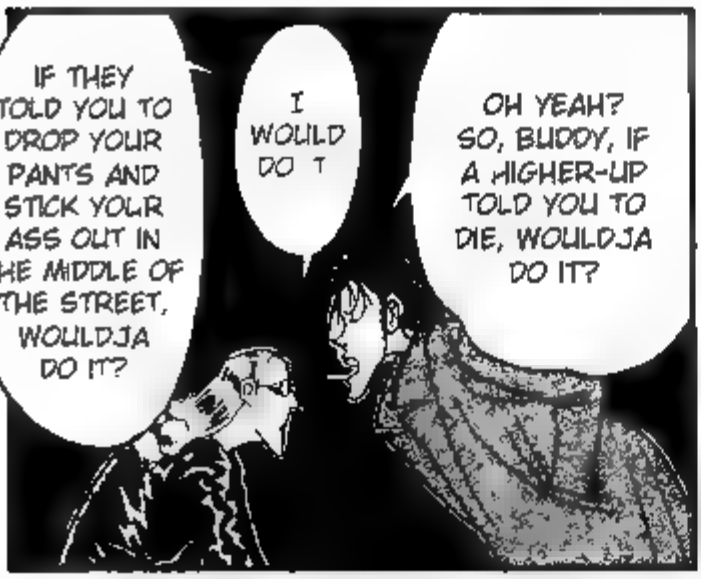

I'LL MAKE IT LAST, SOMEHOW OR ANOTHER.
EVEN IF BY CHANCE IT DOES NOT...


JUST SO LONG AS MY PUPPET IS DELIVERED HERE.

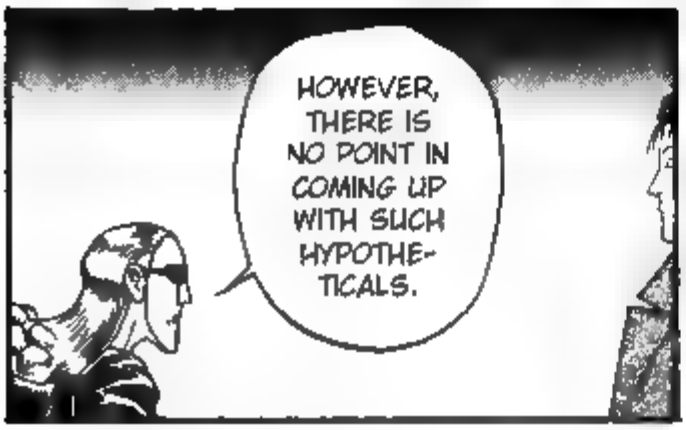
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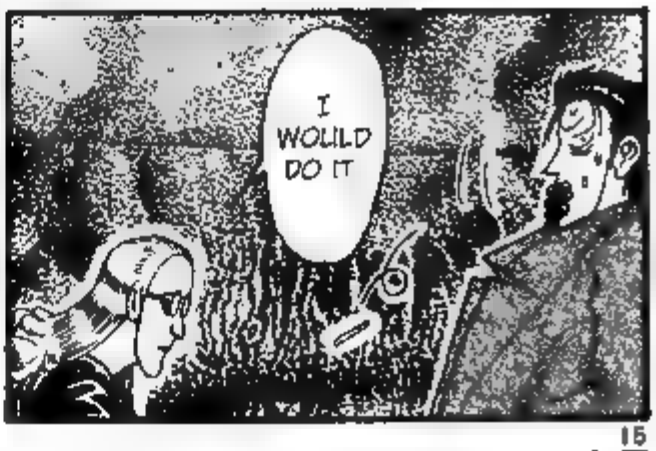

ASHIHANA, WE... OR RATHER, I... NEED ONLY CARRY OUT ORDERS.
ONE THAT'S TOO BIG TO BE CARRIED IN ONE OF THE USUAL TRUNKS.
WE'RE TRANSPORTIN' SOME KINDA MARIONETTE, RIGHT?


SO... JUST WHAT'S IN THIS HUGE PACKAGE?


IF THEY TOLD YOU TO DROP YOUR PANTS AND STICK YOUR ASS OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET, WOULDJA DO IT?
I WOULD DO T
OH YEAH? SO, BUDDY, IF A HIGHER-UP TOLD YOU TO DIE, WOULDJA DO IT?


SHIROGANE-O ARE THE ULTIMATE SOLDIERS.THERE IS NO NEED FOR SOLDIERS TO ASK UNNECESSARY QUESTIONS.


HOWEVER, THERE IS NO POINT IN COMING UP WITH SUCH HYPOTHE-TICALS.


I WOULD DO IT


YOU SEE! YOU HAVE NO ROOM TO TALK.
I GUESS THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
I'm not so good at that part


WHAT ARE YOU TALK-NG ABOUT ?!
OH, GEORGE-SAN! GOT A LITTLE PEEVED JUST NOW, DIDN'TCHA ?


HOW DO YOU JAPANESE YAKUZA DO THINGS, THEN? YOU OPERATE ACCORDING TO A SIMILIAR HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE, DO YOU NOT?
Sorry bout your life!
TCH! SO YOU'RE AN IDIOT, THEN, HUH?!


.....
HEE HEE, THERE'S YOUR HUMAN PART SHOWIN' THROUGH ...!
I AM DONE SOCIA-LIZING WITH YOU!
AND YOU WERE HAPPY TO GET THE LAST WORD IN, WEREN'T-CHA?!
WHAT'S THE MATTER ?!
IT DIDN'T SHOW UP ON OUR RADAR!
H-HOLD ON! WHAT'S THAT?!
GOOD. PREPARE TO DE-SCEND.
GEORGE, WE'RE NEARING THE TARGET POINT.
THAT'S NO! ...
IT'S... A CLOUD... NO, A FOG ...!


SILVER SMOKE !!


SILVER SMOKE IS A CONGLOMERATION OF VERY TINY AUTOMATA'
WH-WHAT'S GOIN ON?
I-I CAN'T MOVE IN SLOW MOTION
AVOID IT'
SILVER SMOKE?' THAT'S WHAT LE CERCLE DE MINUIT USES TO SPREAD ZONAPHA PATHOGENS!
NOT ONLY DOES IT SPREAD ZONAPHA SYNDROME TO HUMANS
IT CAUSES MACHINERY TO MAL-FUNCTION AS WELL'
DAMN DID THEY DISSEMINATE THIS SMOKE AROUND THEIR TENT IN ADVANCE?
WWAAAH!


ぱっ
ARE YOU FULLY RESTED, DEAR GUESTS?
NOW THEN ...
IF YOU ARE PREPARED, WE SHALL RESUME THE GAME ...

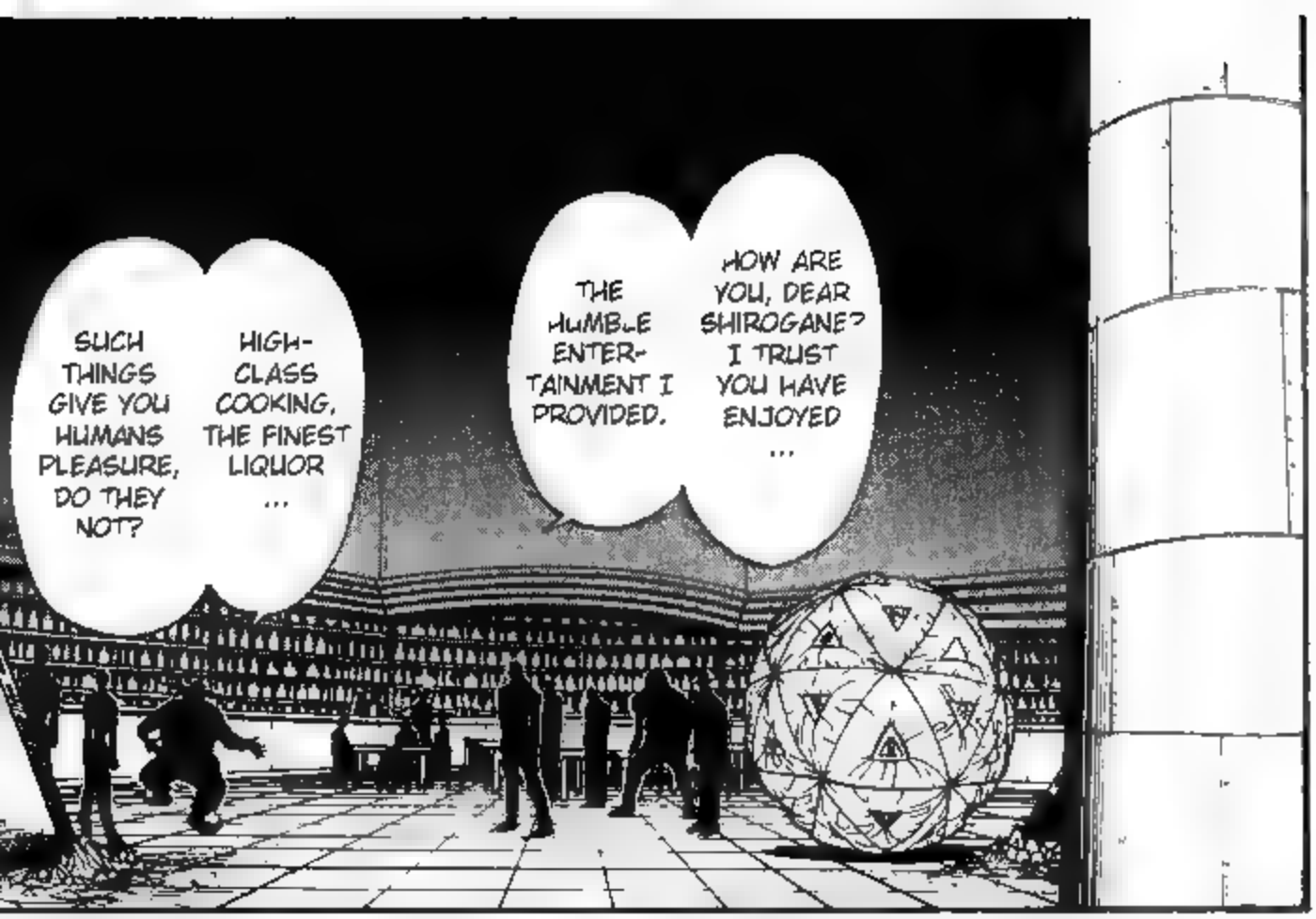

AND LET THE THIRD MATCH BEGIN!

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HOW ARE YOU, DEAR SHIROGANE? I TRUST YOU HAVE ENJOYED ...
THE HUMBLE ENTER-TAINMENT I PROVIDED.
HIGH-CLASS COOKING, THE FINEST LIQUOR ...
SUCH THINGS GIVE YOU HUMANS PLEASURE, DO THEY NOT?

Act 19
The Red Sand Dune

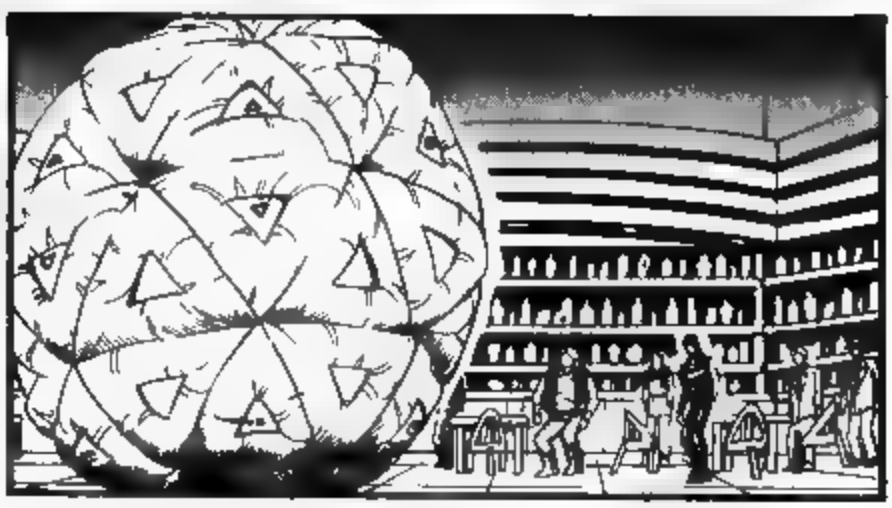
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PLEA-
SURE
♡
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?


OH, NOOO... I FELL ASLEEP ...!

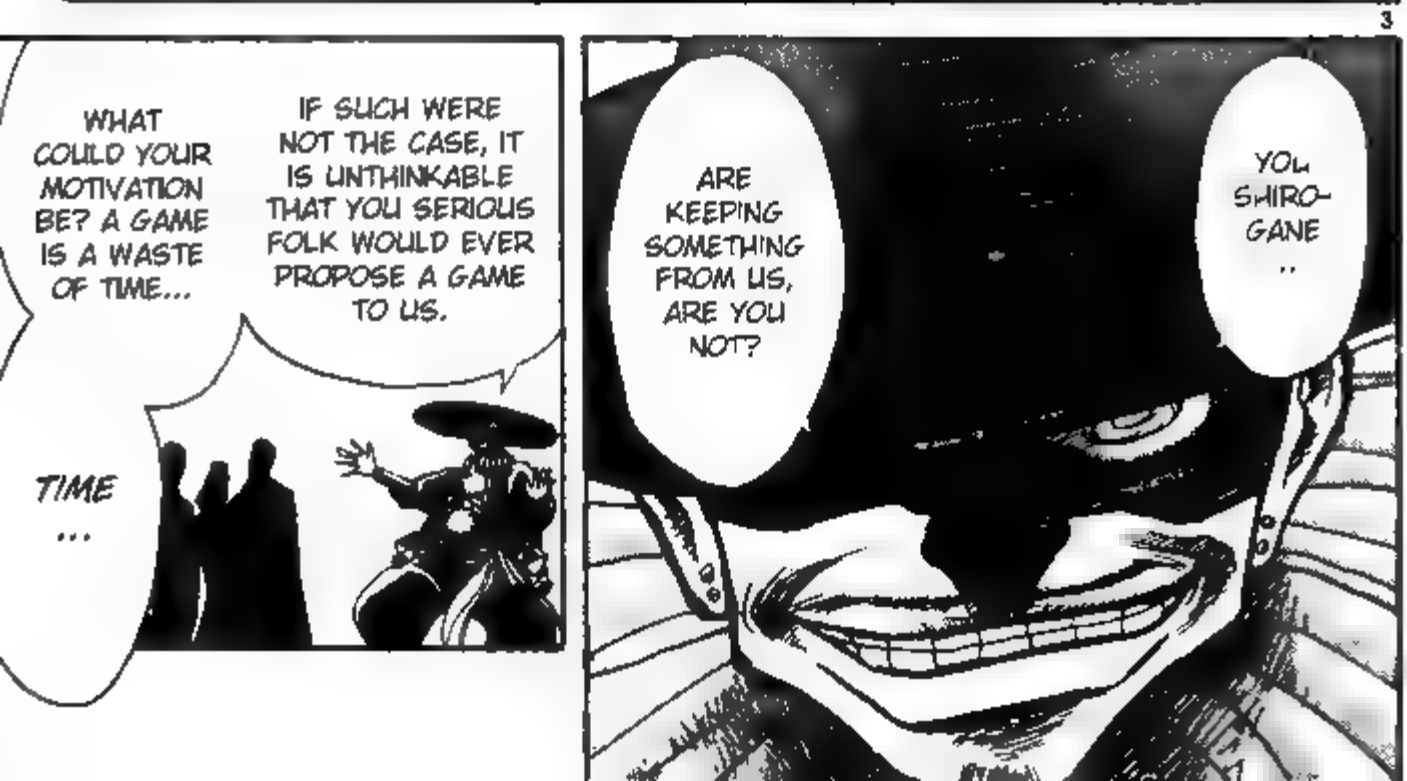



UNTIL MIDNIGHT TONIGHT... VICTORY WILL BE OURS.
IF WE CAN KEEP THE DOLLS HERE FOR THE NEXT 13 HOURS ...


DO NOT WORRY, MISS MING-XIA. THERE HAS BEEN A BREAK IN THE GAME, AT THE SUG-GESTION OF THE AUTO-MATA.
WHAT?! IT'S 11 IN THE MORNING?! I WAS ASLEEP LIKE THIS FOR 3 HOURS?! FATIMA...!

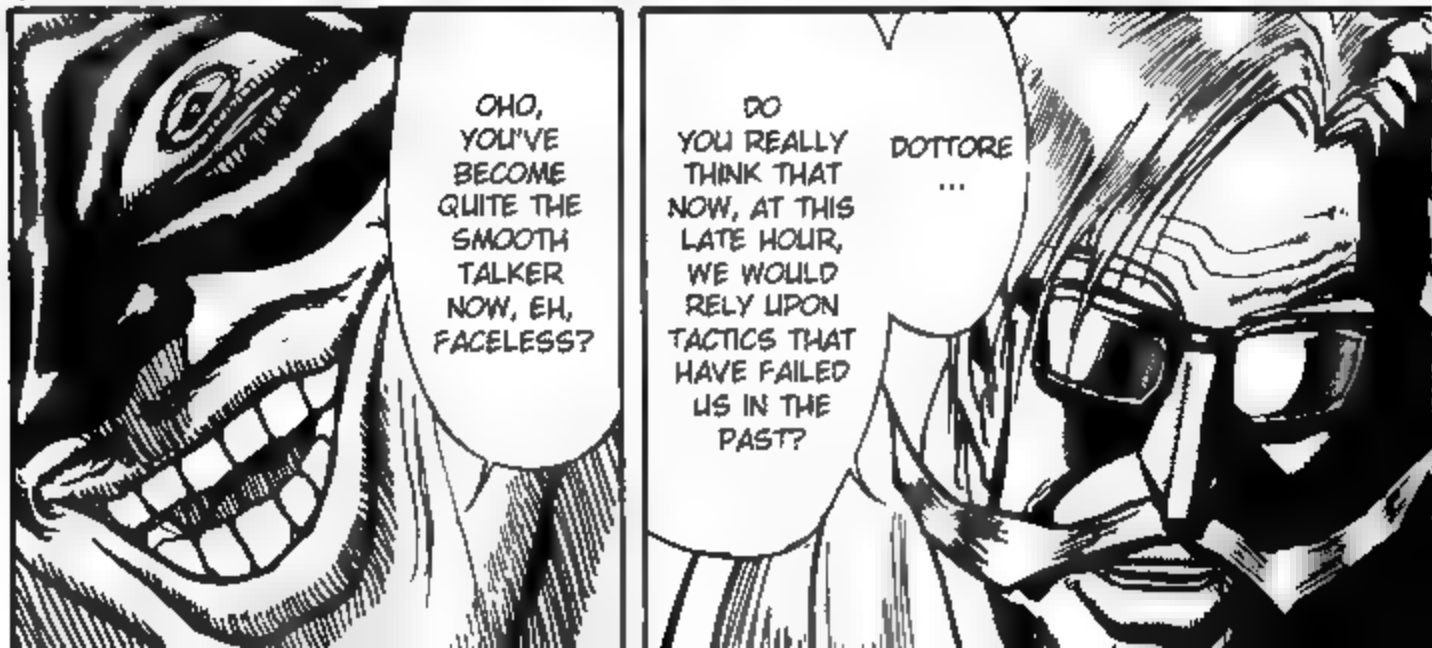

ABOUT THAT ...
.....


FATIMA, YOU MUST KNOW, RIGHT?
THERE HASN'T BEEN ANY TIME TO ASK UNTIL NOW. JUST WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN AT MIDNIGHT?
JUST HOW ...
IS VICTORY GOING TO BE OURS?
AT MID-NIGHT ...
A SPECIAL KIND OF RAIN WILL DESCEND UPON THIS LAND.
RAIN ...?


YOU SHIRO-GANE ..
ARE KEEPING SOMETHING FROM US, ARE YOU NOT?
IF SUCH WERE NOT THE CASE, IT IS UNTHINKABLE THAT YOU SERIOUS FOLK WOULD EVER PROPOSE A GAME TO US.
WHAT COULD YOUR MOTIVATION BE? A GAME IS A WASTE OF TIME...
TIME ...


AT THIS TENT CONTAINING OUR LOVELY MIDNIGHT CIRCUS?
COULD IT, BY CHANCE, BE THAT YOU INTEND TO FIRE SOME KIND OF MISSILE ...


A... MISSILE ...?


OHO, YOU'VE BECOME QUITE THE SMOOTH TALKER NOW, EH, FACELESS?
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT NOW, AT THIS LATE HOUR, WE WOULD RELY UPON TACTICS THAT HAVE FAILED US IN THE PAST?
DOTTORE ...

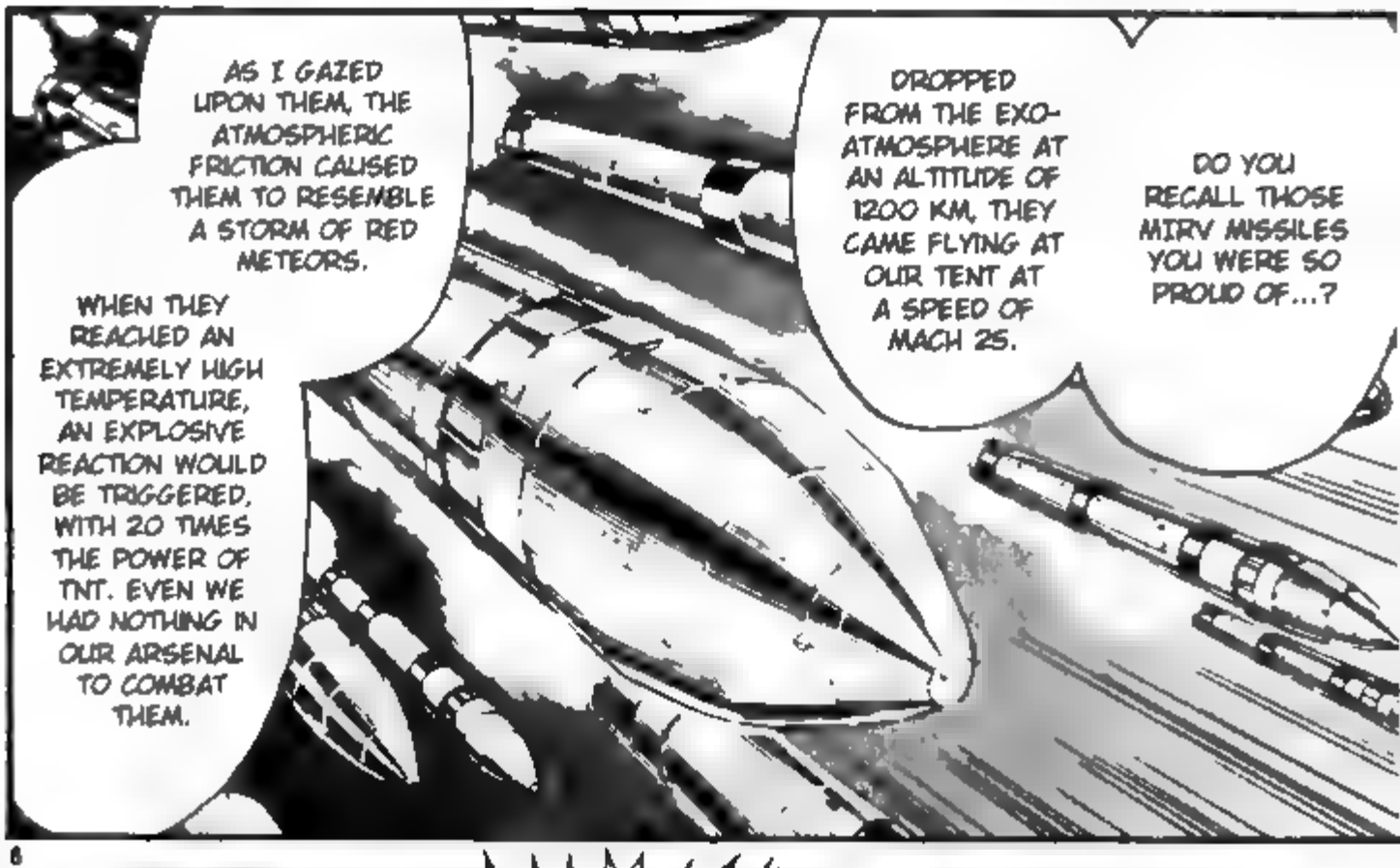

AZTP
WH-WHAT'S GOIN' ON? THIS SILVER CLOUD...


ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN THE PAST, YOU HAVE DISCOVERED OUR TENT'S LOCATION BY SHEER GOOD FORTUNE.
THREE OF THOSE TIMES, YOU USED THERMONUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE TITAN I ROCKET NEAR THE END OF THE '50S, THE MINUTEMAN IN 1962... AND THEN IN 1988, THE ICBM PEACEMAKER.
BUT EACH TIME IT ENDED IN FAILURE.

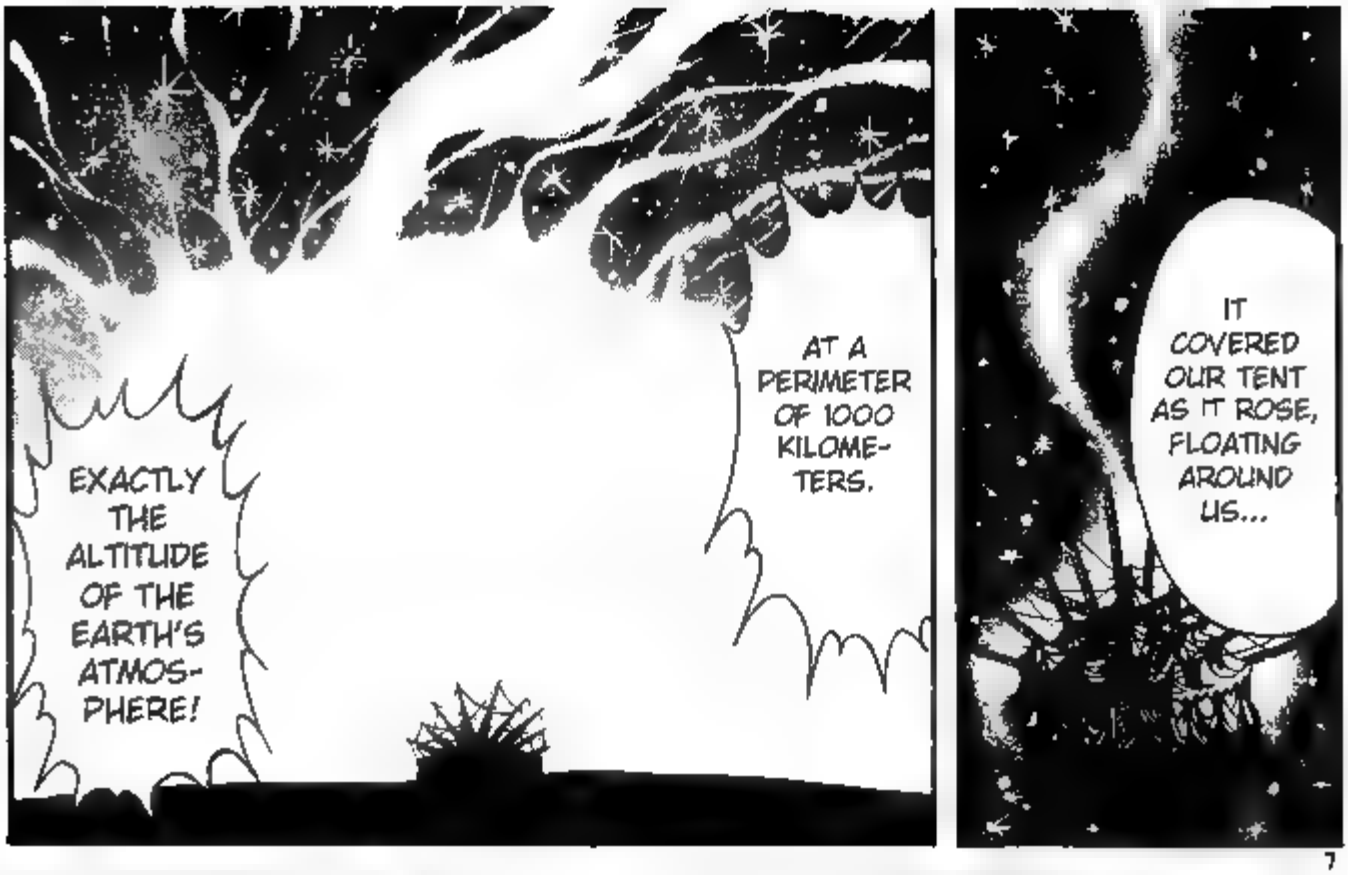

WHAT IS THIS STUFF ?!
IT LOOKS LIKE SMOKE, BUT IT IS ACTUALLY MADE UP OF INSECT-TYPE AUTOMATA ...
EACH LESS THAN A TENTH OF A MILLI-METER IN LENGTH!


THIS IS A SILVER SMOKE CREATED BY THE AUTOMATA!
AS SOON AS WE ENTERED IT, THE COPTER GOT ALL SCREWED UP!


THROUGH ANY KIND OF TINY OPENING, AND CAUSE SERIOUS DAMAGE!
IF THEY ATTACH THEM-SELVES TO MACHINERY, THEY CAN ENTER ...
WHEN THEY ENTER THE HUMAN BODY, THEY INTERFERE WITH THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND CAUSE THE ONSET OF ZONAPHA SYNDROME!

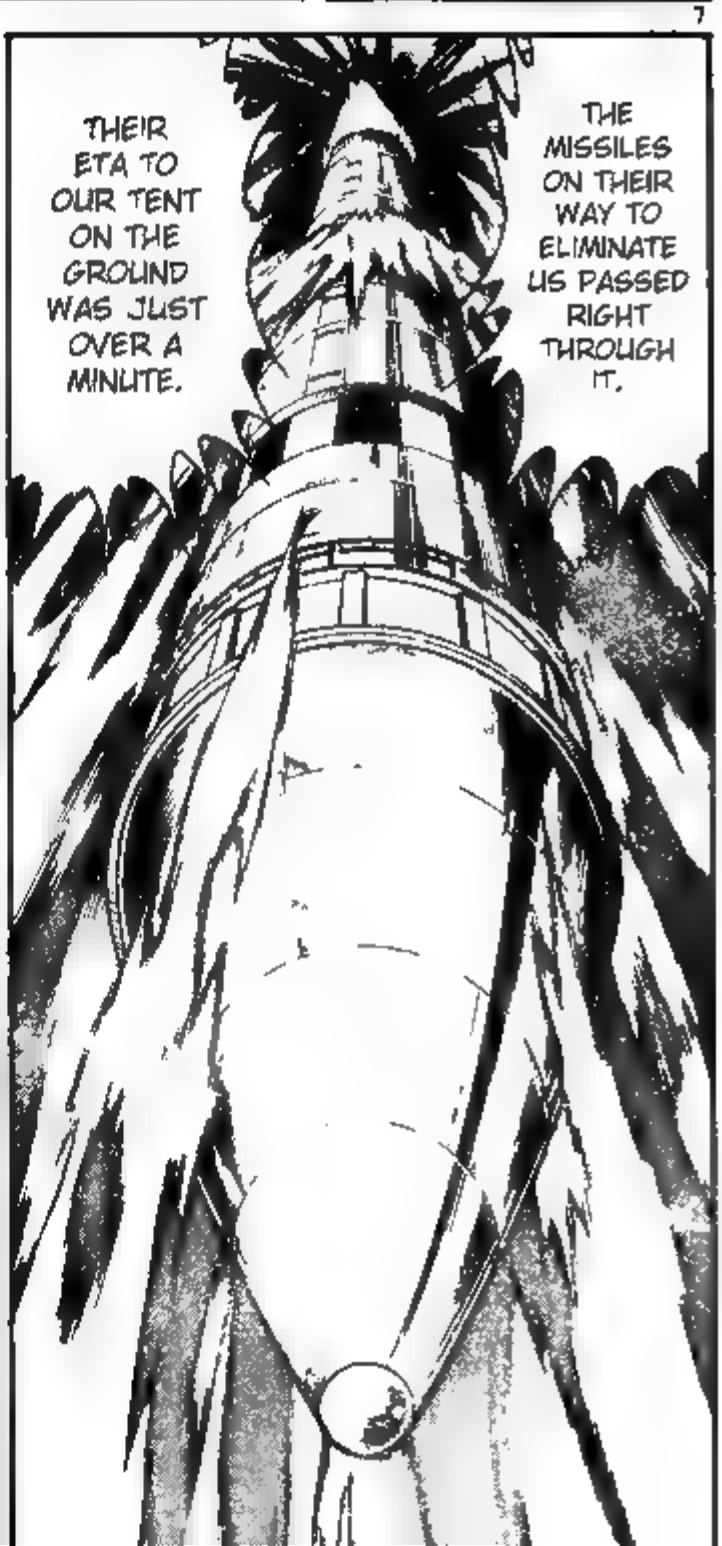

AS I GAZED UPON THEM, THE ATMOSPHERIC FRICTION CAUSED THEM TO RESEMBLE A STORM OF RED METEORS.
WHEN THEY REACHED AN EXTREMELY HIGH TEMPERATURE, AN EXPLOSIVE REACTION WOULD BE TRIGGERED, WITH 20 TIMES THE POWER OF TNT. EVEN WE HAD NOTHING IN OUR ARSENAL TO COMBAT THEM.
DROPPED FROM THE EXO-ATMOSPHERE AT AN ALTITUDE OF 1200 KM, THEY CAME FLYING AT OUR TENT AT A SPEED OF MACH 25.
DO YOU RECALL THOSE MIRV MISSILES YOU WERE SO PROUD OF...?


FUHAHAHA...! WE KEPT PUMPING OUR SILVER SMOKE UP INTO THE SKY!
HOW-EVER ...!


EXACTLY THE ALTITUDE OF THE EARTH'S ATMOS-PHERE!
AT A PERIMETER OF 1000 KILOME-TERS.
IT COVERED OUR TENT AS IT ROSE, FLOATING AROUND US...


AND THEN ...


キキキ


THEIR ETA TO OUR TENT ON THE GROUND WAS JUST OVER A MINUTE.
THE MISSILES ON THEIR WAY TO ELIMINATE US PASSED RIGHT THROUGH IT.


GET A HOLD OF YOURSELVES! YOU'VE CONTRACTED ZONAPHA SYNDROME ...? TCH, THIS IS WHY NORMAL HUMANS CAN'T...!
HHI ... HHI ... HHI ...!
GHFFH ...!
GEORGE... EVACUATE THE... GHUH!!
IT'S NO USE... CONTROLS WON'T WORK ...
YOU'VE COME DOWN WITH IT AS WELL, ASHIHANA?
CAN'T... BREATHE... ALL OF A SUDDEN...
WH-WHAT'S GOIN' ON...
ハッ
ハッ

8

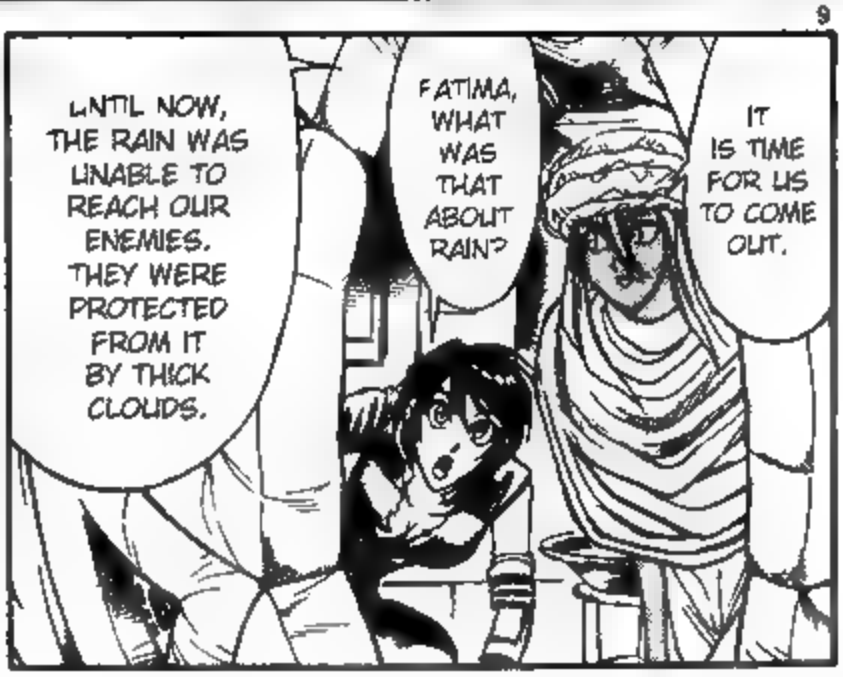

DAMMIT...! I DON'T WANNA DIE HERE!!
HHI... OUR ALTITUDE IS DROPPING... HHI... ALTITUDE ...
WHAT YA SAID JUST NOW... WAS THAT FOR REAL ...?
THIS IS... ZONAPHA SYNDROME ...?

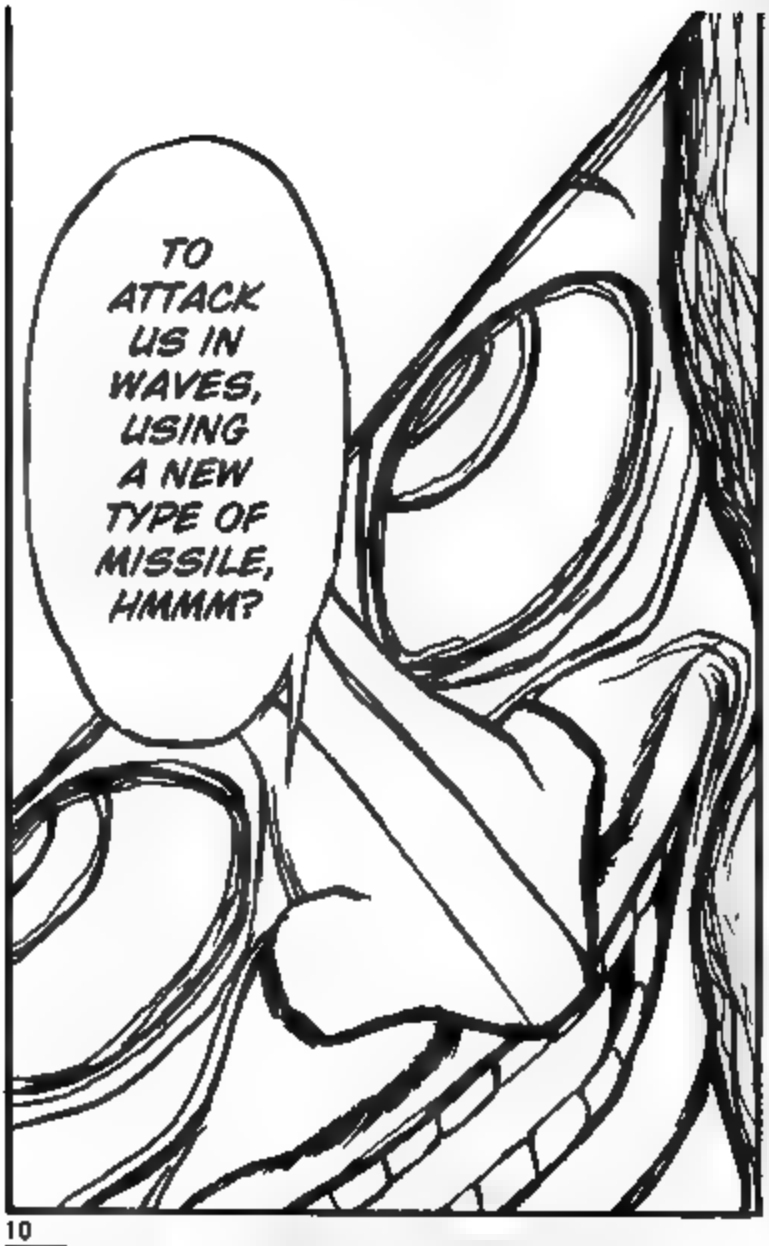

THE MISSILES TURNED OFF-COURSE, AND THEY CRASHED, ONE AND ALL.


IS THAT SO ...?
THAT IS WHY WE HAVE NO SUCH PLAN THIS TIME.
WE ARE AWARE OF THAT AS WELL.


IT WOULDN'T, PERCHANCE, HAPPEN TO BE THAT YOU HAVE FOUND A WAY TO CIRCUMVENT OUR SILVER SMOKE...?


HOWEVER, HUMANS HAVE FOUND A WAY ...


UNTIL NOW, THE RAIN WAS UNABLE TO REACH OUR ENEMIES. THEY WERE PROTECTED FROM IT BY THICK CLOUDS.
FATIMA, WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT RAIN?
IT IS TIME FOR US TO COME OUT.


TO ATTACK US IN WAVES, USING A NEW TYPE OF MISSILE, HMMM?

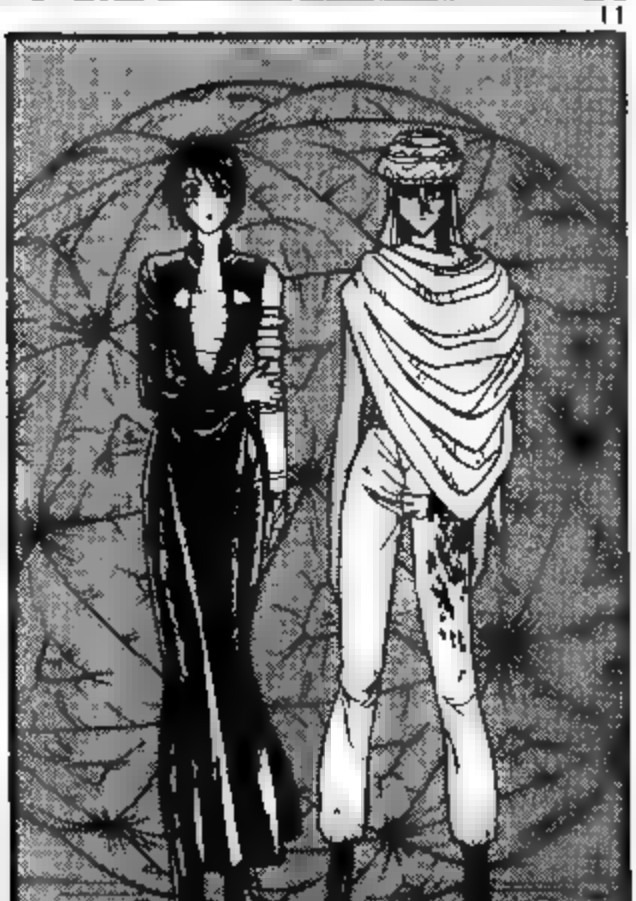

PER-HAPS ...
YOU MIGHT BE WAITING FOR A CERTAIN HOUR TO COME?




WE HAD FORESEEN THAT SUCH MIGHT BE YOUR PLAAAN ...!
THAT IS WHY WE ENGAGED YOU IN THIS GAME.
LUU-CIIILLE, FAAACE-LEEESS.




FUFUFU ...! STRUCK DUMB, ARE YOU?




THAT'S RIIIGHT, WE'VE DISCOVERED THAT YOU'RE JUST STALLING FOR TIME. SO WE NO LONGER EVEN NEED TO ESCAPE.


THIS SILENCE, AT THE MOMENT YOU HAVE LEARNED OF YOUR DEFEAT ...!
THAT'S IT! THAT SILENCE OF YOURS... THAT IS THE ULTIMATE PLEASURE FOR ME!
FUHA HAHAHA HAHA ...!

12


HOW ...
HOW DID THESE GUYS KNOW ABOUT IT...?


EE HA HA HA HA


A HA HA HA


..YEAH.
LOOKS THAT WAY... BUT THIS DOESN'T CHANGE WHAT WE'RE HERE TO DO.
MING-XIA... YOU'RE FEELING BETTER?
SO THIS PLAN SN'T GONNA WORK ANY-MORE?
IT'S TIME FOR PLAN D.
YES ...
GRR...
LU-CILLE ...
WE'RE OUT OF EXCUSES
TH S PLACE ...


AND DESTROY THE SYMBOL OF THE MIDNIGHT CIRCUS, THE DOLL THAT LEADS THEM...
WITH-OUT FAIL.
HAVE ALL THE SHIROGANE OUTSIDE STORM THE TENT...


THE DOLL FRAN-CINE !!
WE'LL DES-TROY ...


SO YOU STILL CLING, DO YOU, TO A THIN SHRED OF HOPE?
OH, DEAR ...


OBVI-OUSLY ...


A... ANOTHER GAME...?!


WE WERE PLAYING ANOTHER ONE.
THIS PAST NIGHT, AS YOU WERE OCCUPIED WITH ONE GAME...

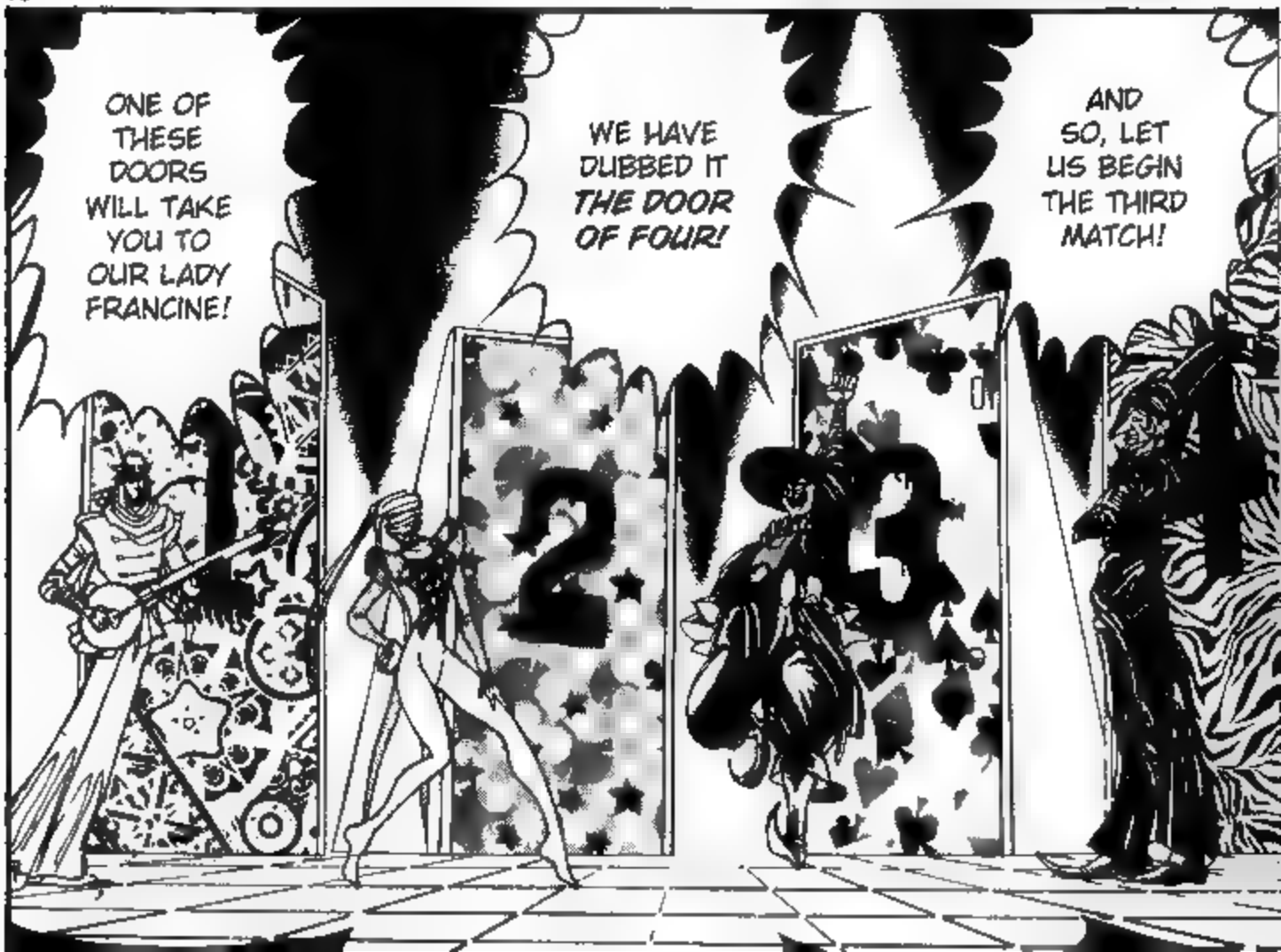

UFUFU... I WONDER, JUST WHAT MIGHT THAT MEAN?
HAVE YOU FAILED TO NOTICE THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CONTACT WHATSOEVER FROM YOUR COMRADES OUTSIDE?
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE REASON FOR THAT?
THAT'S RIGHT ...
...! WHAT ...? WHAT IS...?!
KHH... THEIR TENT IS WITHIN SIGHT.
HEY! LET'S REPAIR THE HELI-COPTER!
A HILL... OF RED SAND ...?
hhi
THE HELL... IS THAT ...?
hhi
hhi
ARE WE GOING TO HIT THE GROUND ?!
DAMN ...!




NO! SAND DUNES AIN'T RED!


COMMANDER, THERE'S NO RESPONSE FROM THE TROOPS ON STANDBY!
MONT-FALCON CORPS AND CASTOR CORPS ...
NEITHER ARE RES-PONDING ...


SHIT ...!
BUT PLEASE, DO NOT WORRY, DEAR SHIRO-GANE.
THIS GAME HAS BEEN A LONG TIME COMING, AND WE INTEND TO FINISH IT.
THE PRIZE WAS TO BE A MEETING WITH LADY FRANCINE, IF YOU RECALL.


AND SO, LET US BEGIN THE THIRD MATCH!
WE HAVE DUBBED IT THE DOOR OF FOUR!
ONE OF THESE DOORS WILL TAKE YOU TO OUR LADY FRANCINE!
2
3

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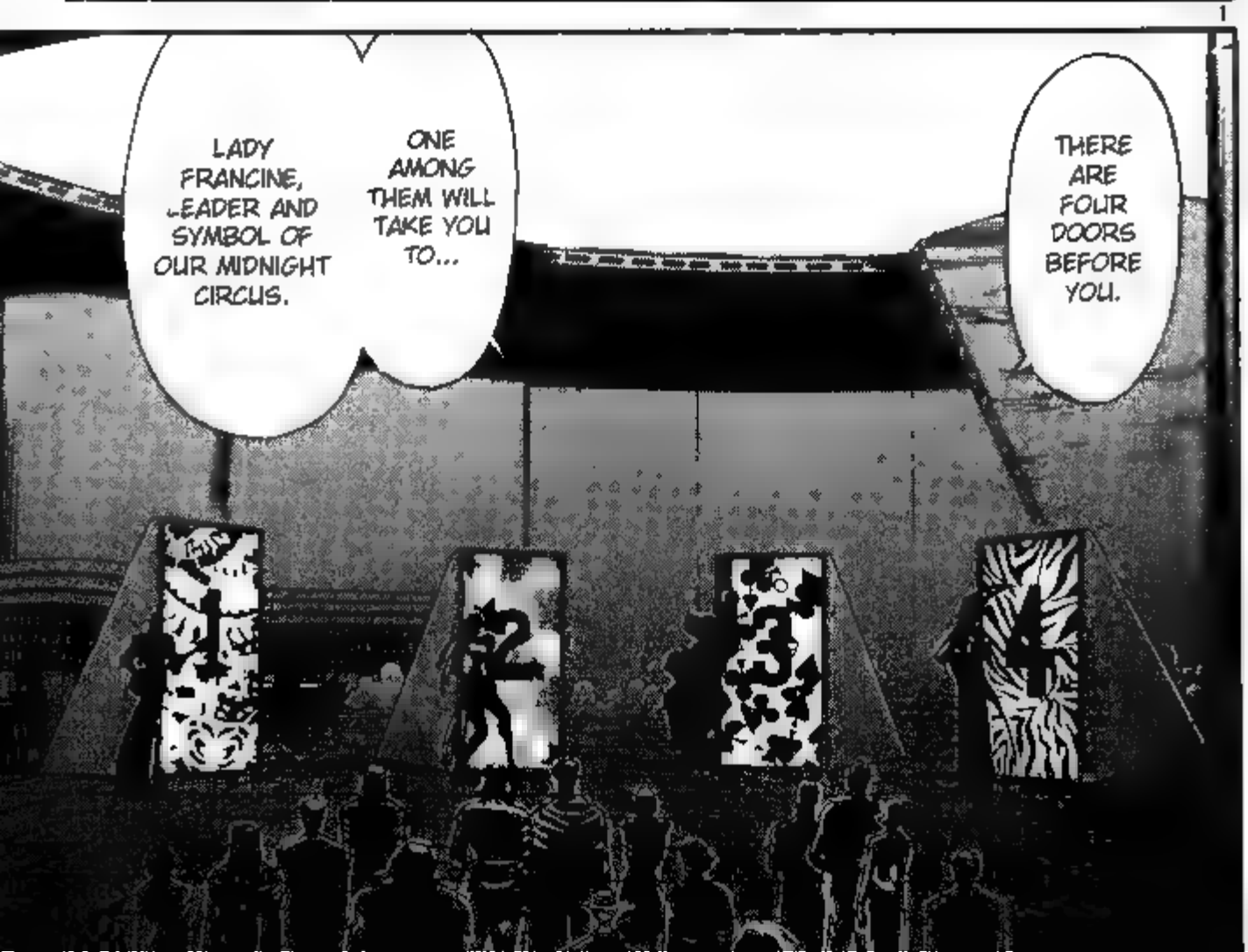
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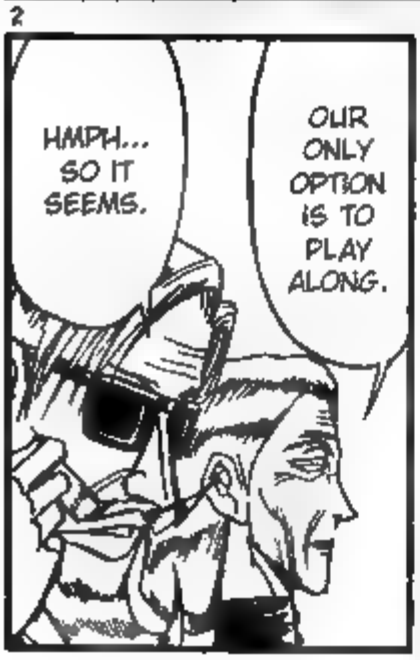


Act 20
The Four Doors

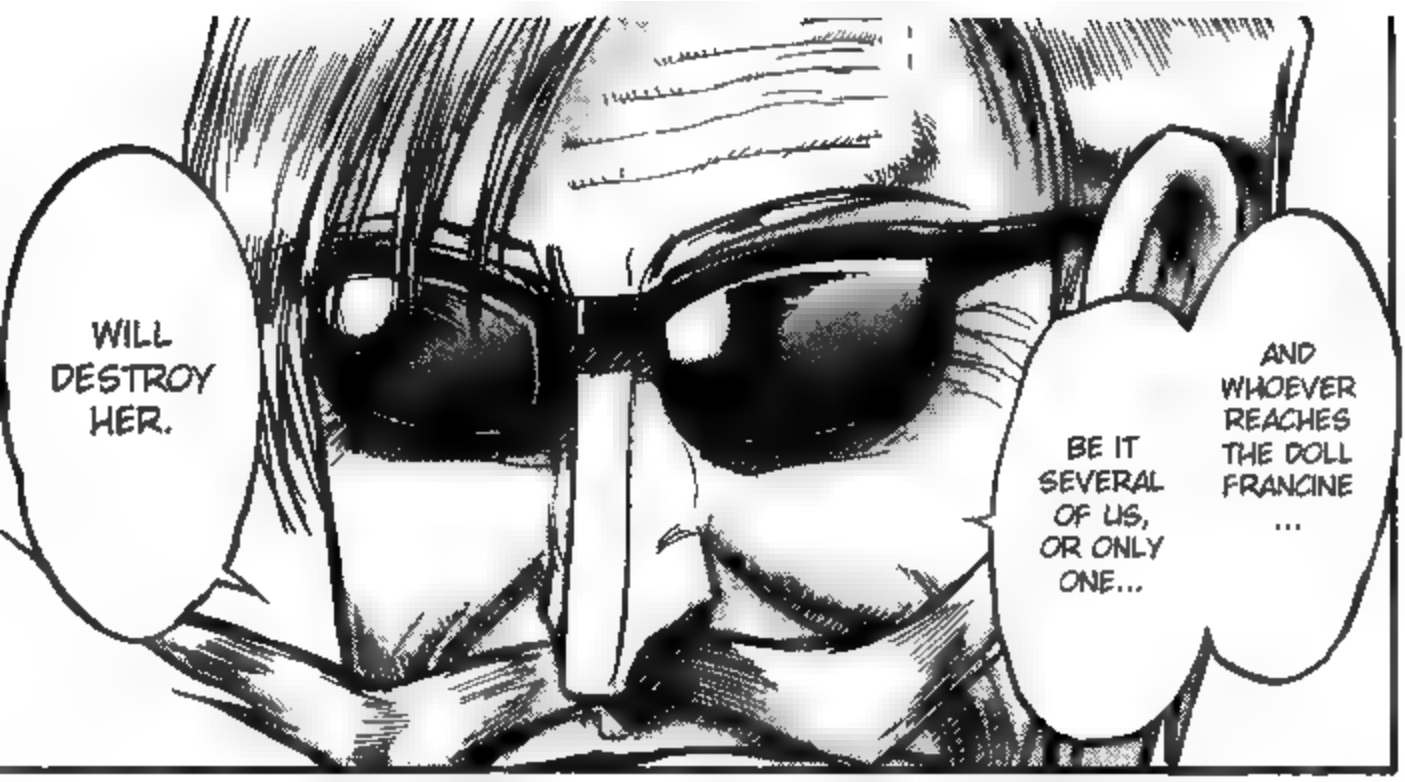



IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THIS GAME REPRESENTS YOUR BEST OPTION.
YOUR PLAN HAS BEEN LEAKED ...
AND YOUR COMRADES, WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO STORM OUR TENT, ARE ALL DEAD.


NOW... WHAT WILL YOU DO?


HMPH... SO IT SEEMS.
OUR ONLY OPTION IS TO PLAY ALONG.


IT MUST BE A TRAP... WHAT SHOULD WE DO, LUCILLE ...?
HOBSON'S CHOICE, IN OTHER WORDS ...


WILL DESTROY HER.
BE IT SEVERAL OF US, OR ONLY ONE...
AND WHOEVER REACHES THE DOLL FRANCINE ...


ALL THAT WE NEED DO IS PLAY ALONG WITH THEIR GAME FOR A LITTLE LONGER ...
AND WHY NOT, DMITRI ?!
DAHL, THAT IS NOT A GOOD PLAN.
KEH! INSTEAD OF DIVING INTO SOME POINTLESS TRAP...
I'D RATHER GO OUT FIGHTING RIGHT HERE!


WE SHIRO-GANE EXIST ONLY TO DEFEAT THEM.
HEY, STUPID, THEY ALREADY KNOW IT'S COMING!


AND THE TIME OF THE MISSILE ATTACK... MIDNIGHT TONIGHT ...
WILL DRAW CLOSER!


LET'S DO IT.
IF THERE EXISTS THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF DOING THAT, IS IT NOT A RISK WORTH TAKING?


KEH! I DON'T NEED TO BE TOLD THAT BY THE LIKES OF YOU!
AREN'T WE HERE TO DESTROY THIS CIRCUS WITHOUT FAIL?


TAKE THAT! A MOUTH JUST AS DUMB AS WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
BUT, I MEAN ...

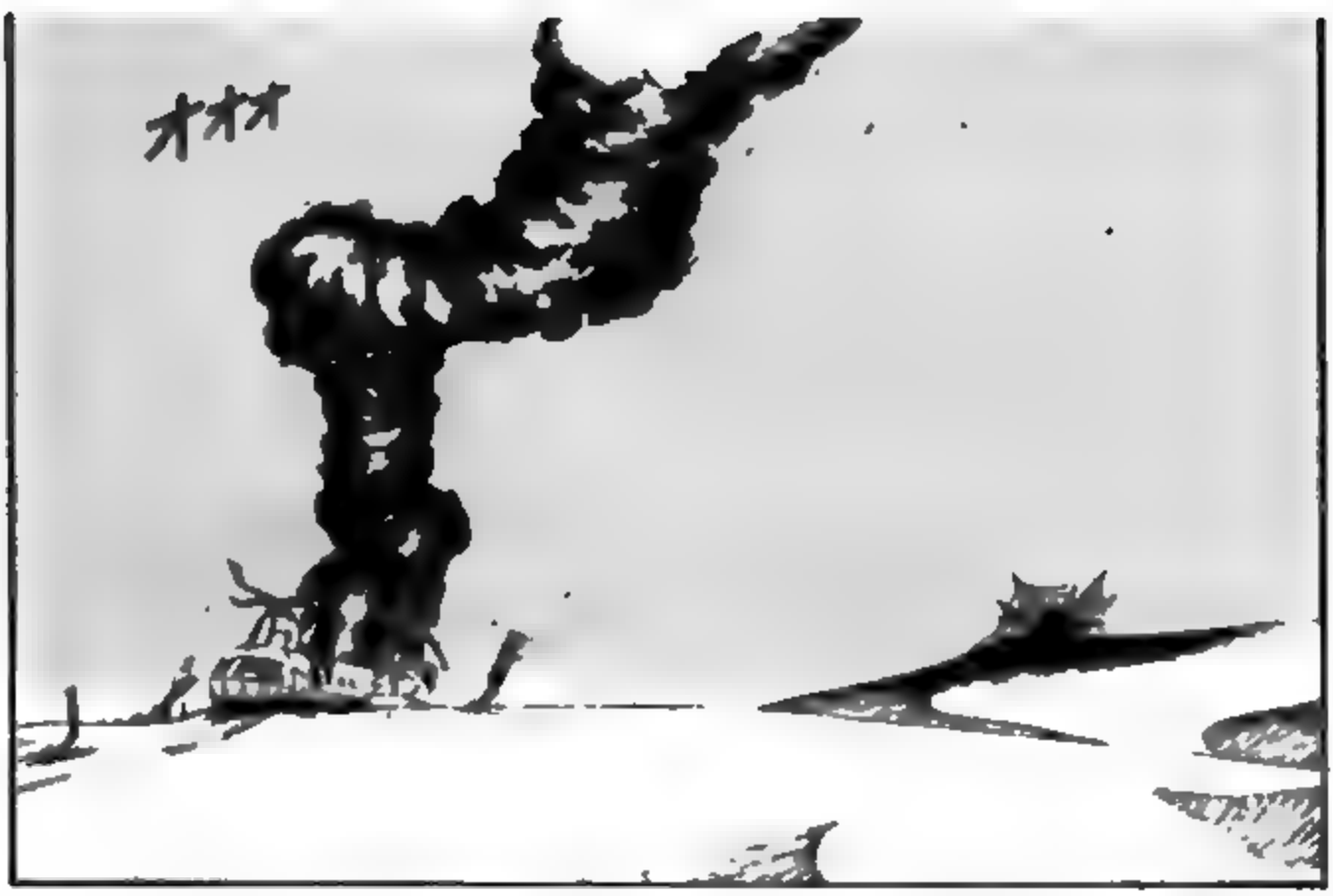

WHAT? DO YOU THINK I'M SCARED OF DYING OR SOMETHING?
MING-XIA... Y'KNOW, IF YOU WANNA LEAVE ...


OH... RIGHT.
BESIDES, WE'RE WAY OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT. WHERE COULD I EVEN RUN TO?


AHAHA! IT'S JUST AS YOU SAY, YOUNG LADY!


I'M NOT GOING TO RUN AWAY NOW!
I MAY BE JUST A REGULAR HUMAN, BUT I'M HERE TO PUT MY LIFE ON THE LINE

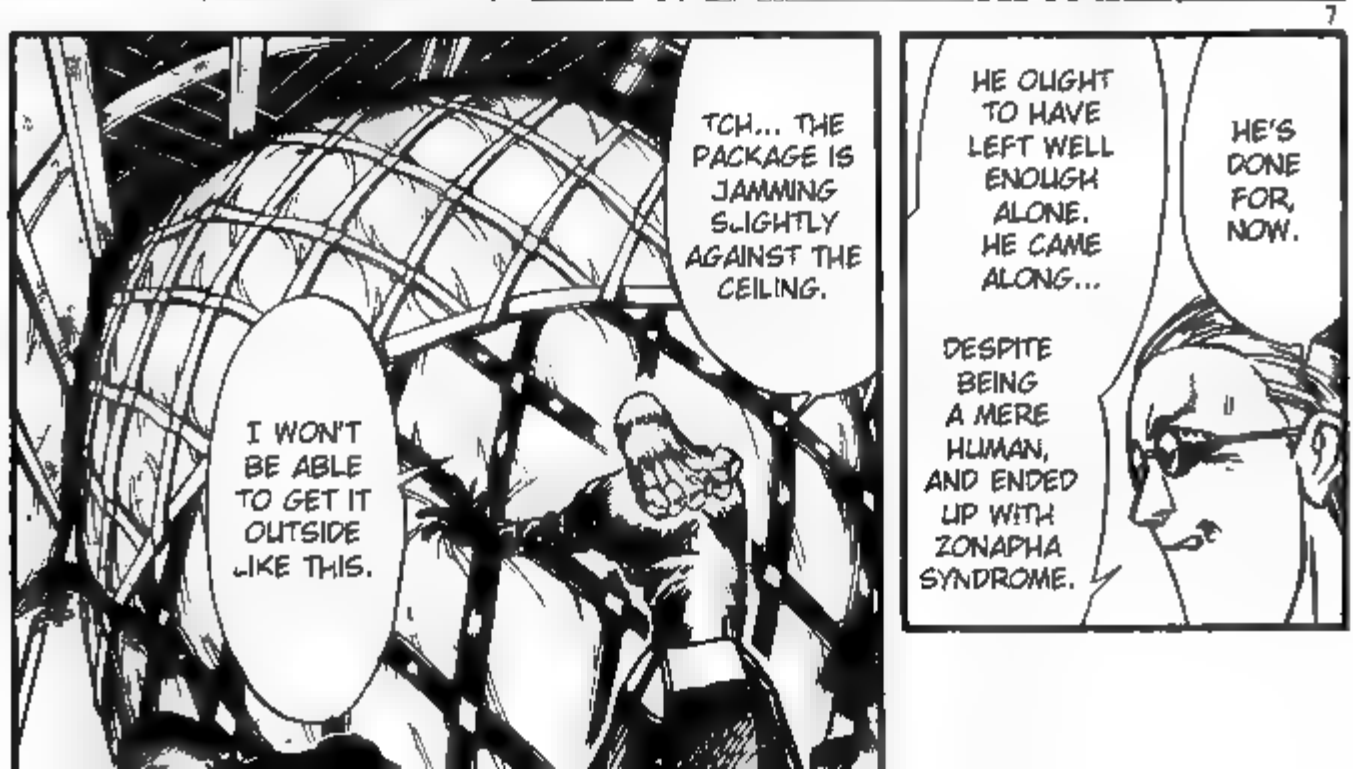

THANK YOU.
YOUR WORDS HAVE GIVEN ME THE WILL TO FIGHT.
COM-MANDER FACE-LESS.
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO WITHDRAW EVEN IF WE WISH TO.
I HAVE TAKEN YOU LIGHTLY, MISS MING-XIA. I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR THAT.
ALL WE HAVE EVER BEEN IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE WITH GRUDGES AGAINST THE DOLLS.
AND ALL WE CAN DO IS CAUSE THEM TROUBLE UNTIL THE VERY END.
TO JOIN IN THEIR GAME.
THIS TIME, IT'S OUR TURN ...
IF YOU'RE READY, LUCILLE, LET'S BE OFF.
OH, GOSH ...
5
WHO IS TO TAKE WHICH DOOR.
...WELL, FIRST WE'LL HAVE TO DECIDE, WON'T WE...


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WE'RE QUITE SOME DISTANCE FROM THEIR TENT
KHH
I MANAGED A CRASH LANDING BUT


AND ON TOP OF THAT, IT'S IN FLAMES ...!
IF I DON'T GET THE PACK-AGE OUT BEFORE THE FUSELAGE EXPLODES ...!
AAA
ARRGH! GET OUT OF THE WAY!
hi
hi


HE'S DONE FOR, NOW.
HE OUGHT TO HAVE LEFT WELL ENOUGH ALONE. HE CAME ALONG...
DESPITE BEING A MERE HUMAN, AND ENDED UP WITH ZONAPHA SYNDROME.
TCH... THE PACKAGE IS JAMMING SLIGHTLY AGAINST THE CEILING.
I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET IT OUTSIDE LIKE THIS.


IN THAT CASE ...
THE PILOTS ARE BOTH DEAD ...
NOT WITHOUT ANOTHER PERSON HOLDING THE HATCH OPEN FROM THE OUTSIDE ...
SIIIG H
DAMN ...!
IF I DON'T HURRY ...!
ハハ!
ハハ!


AH, IT SEEMS YOU HAVE DECIDED WHO IS TO GO THROUGH WHICH DOOR.


SO YOU'VE DIVIDED UP YOUR SHIROGANE-O. GOOD THINKING.

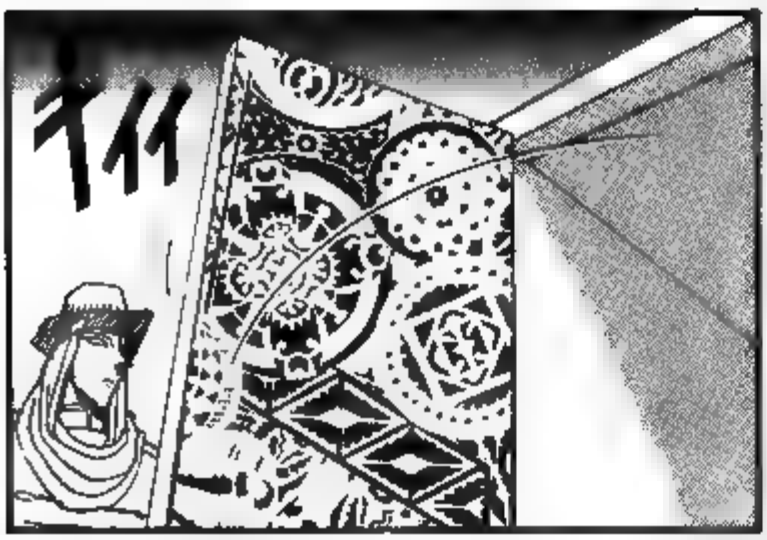

NO MATTER WHAT DOOR LADY FRANCINE WAITS BEHIND, SOMEONE IS SURE TO MEET WITH HER.


DO BE QUIET. WE ARE DECI-DING.
LUCILLE, AREN'T YOU AND THE REST COMING?
OH? WE'RE A BIT SHORT OVER HERE.


LUCILLE, I'M FINE WITH ANY OF THOSE DOORS.
AS AM I, MA-DAME.
SHH... DON'T MOVE, EITHER OF YOU.
.....
HUH ?!
HEY, LITTLE GUY, WHAT'S UP?
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AT ALL SINCE WE CAME IN HERE!
OH... THE DOG.
とち
とち


HMPH... IF YOU WANT TO GO, THEN GO.
SNIIIFF
...SO WHO IS THAT PERSON?
ALWAYS IN THE VICINITY OF A CERTAIN PERSON.
NO, MING-XIA, THIS DOG HAS BEEN WITH US THE WHOLE TIME.
THOUGH WHETHER AS A SERVANT, OR AS AN ENEMY, I CANNOT YET SAY.

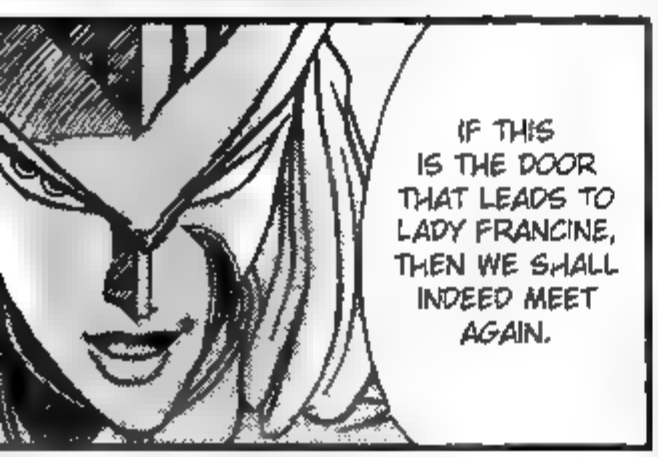

AND WITH THAT, LET THE DOORS BE CAST OPEN ...!
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HMM, SO ONLY ONE OF YOU IS COMING?


ｲｲ


JUST WHAT AWAITS YOU BEHIND THESE DOORS ...?!
HAVE FUN ...!

11


I'VE BEEN WANTING TO MEET YOU AGAIN... WE DIDN'T GET TO SETTLE THINGS LAST TIME.


IF THIS IS THE DOOR THAT LEADS TO LADY FRANCINE, THEN WE SHALL INDEED MEET AGAIN.


IT'S BEEN SOME TIME, NARUMI.
SURE HAS, ARLEC-CHINO.


ハタン
I SHALL ...
WITH PLEA-SURE.
ボロロロ


WELL, EITHER WAY, YOU WAIT FOR ME.


OH, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU TWO ARE JUST REGULAR SHIROGANE, AREN'T YOU.
YES... BUT, NARUMI, DOESN'T IT FEEL AS IF A BREEZE IS BLOWING UP FROM DOWN BELOW?
ヒュウウウ
IT'S PITCH BLACK ..


THAT'S RIGHT, I CAN SEE. JUST IN FRONT OF US ...
I'M MA LI-NA. JUST CALL ME LINA.


AS A SHI-ROGANE-O, YOU MUST HAVE EYES THAT CAN ADJUST TO ANY LEVEL OF LIGHT. SADLY, WE DO NOT ...
ERR ?
WELL, SORRY!
I SUPPOSE YOU CAN'T SEE A THING WHEN IT'S THIS DARK.


IS A SPOOKY STAIR-CASE FIT TO LEAD US...
RIGHT ON DOWN INTO HELL.


.....

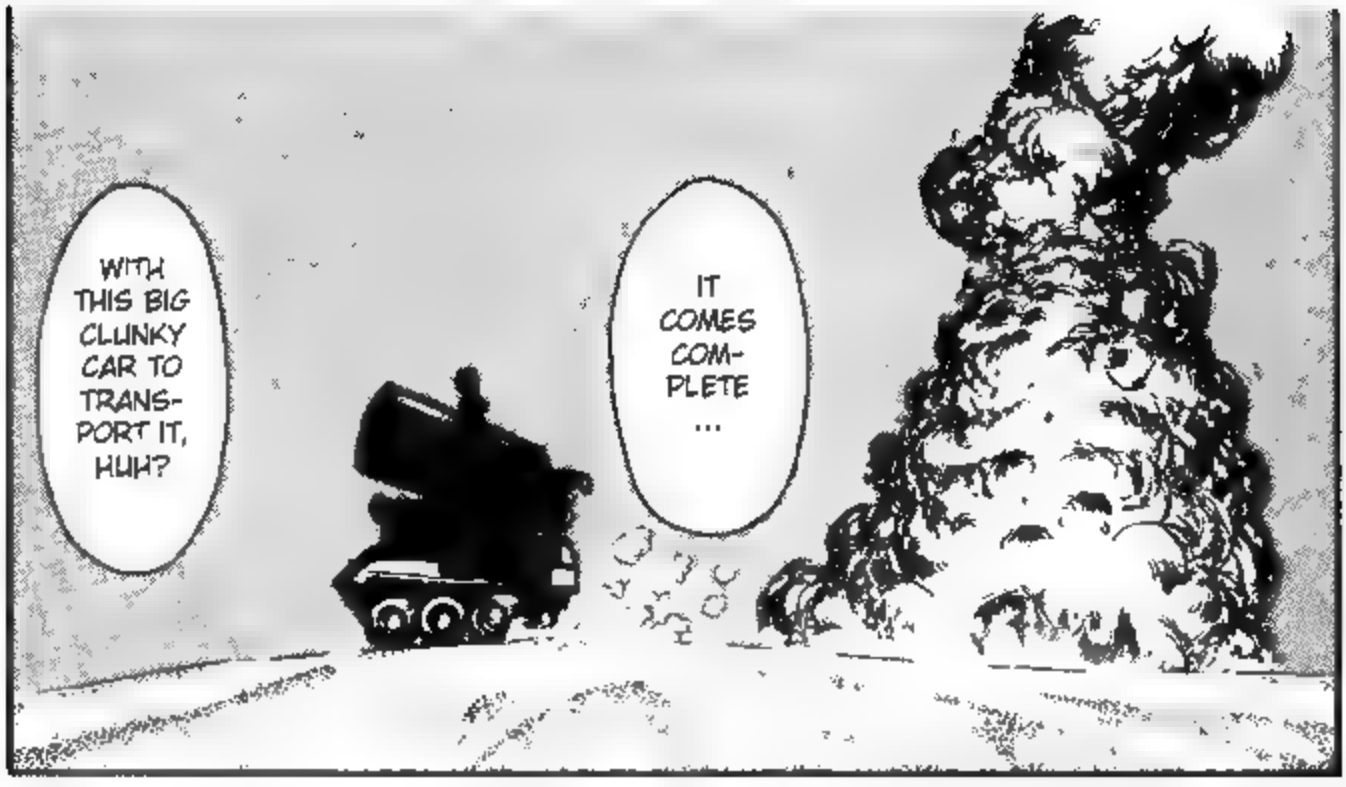



AS A RULE, THIS IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN ... BUT THERE'S NO OTHER OPTION.
BETTER YOUR HELP THAN NONE AT ALL.
WH-WHAT'S WRONG, BUDDY...? YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, HUH...?
HA!
I'LL... GIVE YOU A HAND ...
IF YA GOT THE CASH ...

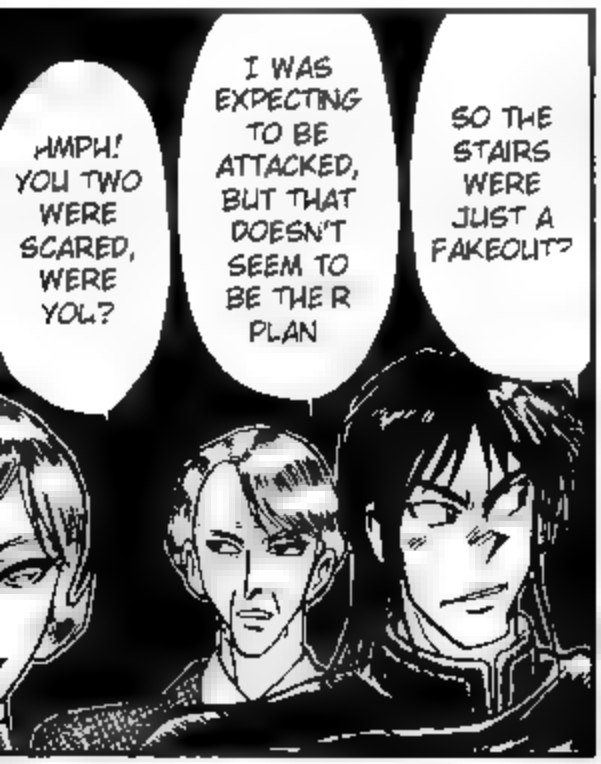

I'LL SAVE YOUR LIFE.
SO HELP ME, ASHI-HANA.
ぽ!!
ぴゅ
OH, THAT'S NOT IT.
HERE IT IS.
WH-WHAT IN THE HELL ...


IT'S ALREADY STARTING TO EX-PLODE!
I'VE GOT THE DOOR FIXED DOWN! HURRY AND GET THE PACKAGE OUT!
ASHI-HANA! HURRY UP!
AND ON TOPPA THAT, THIS PACK-AGE ...
ONCE I DRANK THAT MONSTER'S BLOOD I FELT THE PAIN JUST WHOOSH AWAY...
TODAY'S JUST FULLA SURPRI-SES...
ガァア
AHH




WITH THIS BIG CLUNKY CAR TO TRANS-PORT IT, HUH?
IT COMES COM-PLETE ...

17


HMPH! YOU TWO WERE SCARED, WERE YOU?
I WAS EXPECTING TO BE ATTACKED, BUT THAT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE THE R PLAN
SO THE STAIRS WERE JUST A FAKEOUT?


CON-GRAT-ULA-TIONS!











〈掲載・週刊少年サンデー平成13年6号より平成13年15号まで〉

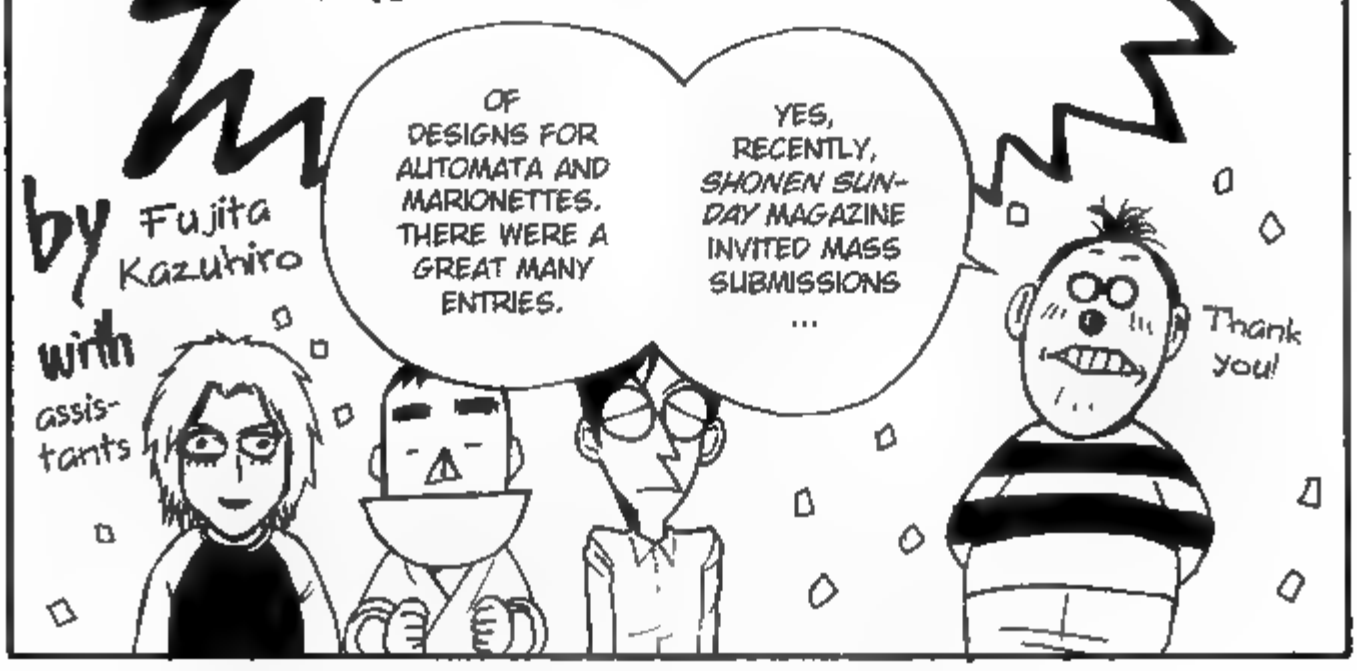
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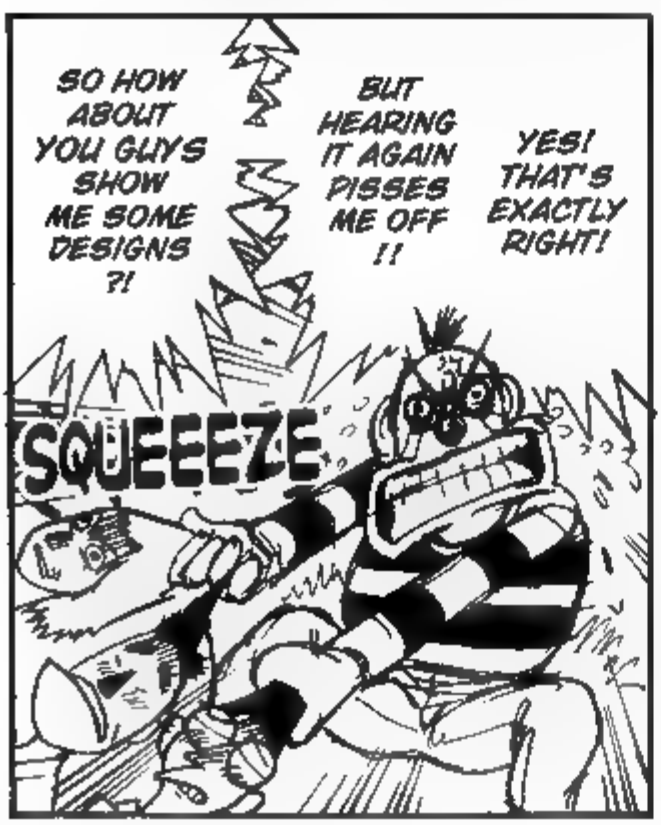
End of Volume Bonus Manga

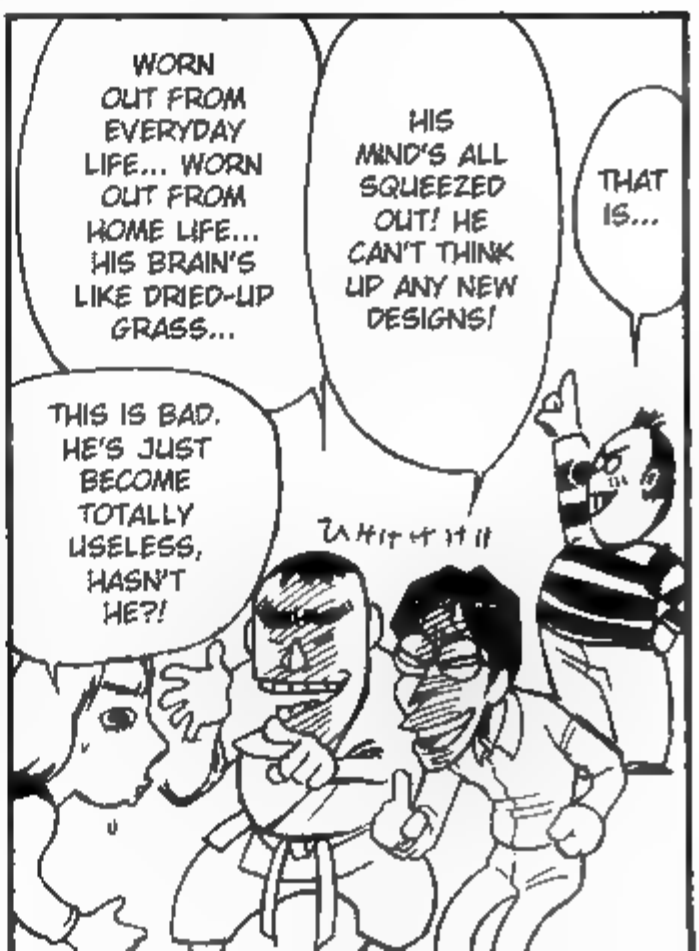
Doll Design Workplace Mass Recruitment!

by Fujita Kazuhiro

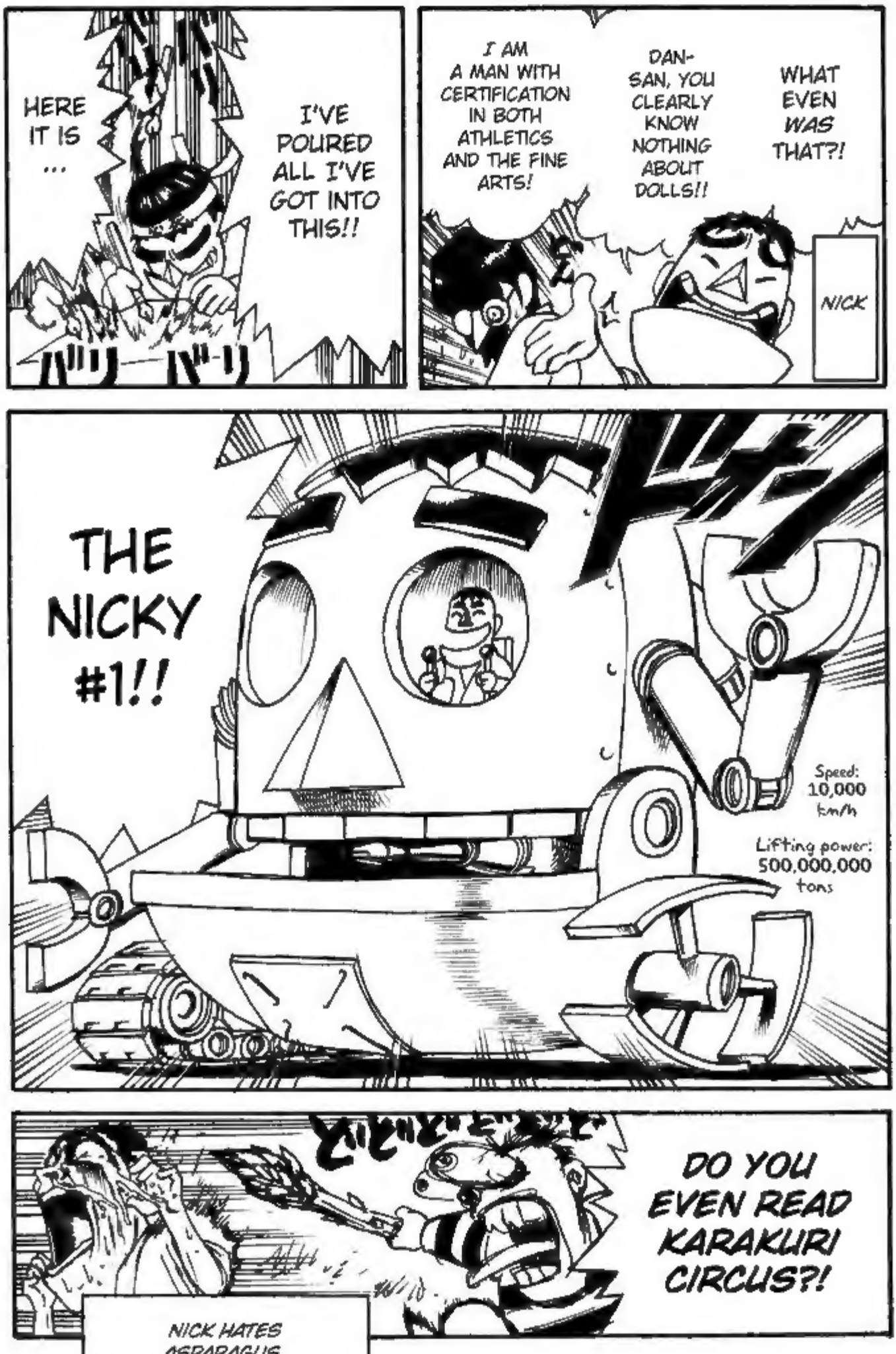
with assistants


OF DESIGNS FOR AUTOMATA AND MARIONETTES. THERE WERE A GREAT MANY ENTRIES.
YES, RECENTLY, SHONEN SUNDAY MAGAZINE INVITED MASS SUBMISSIONS ...
Thank you!




WORN OUT FROM EVERYDAY LIFE... WORN OUT FROM HOME LIFE... HIS BRAIN'S LIKE DRIED-UP GRASS...
HIS MIND'S ALL SQUEEZED OUT! HE CAN'T THINK UP ANY NEW DESIGNS!
THAT IS...
THIS IS BAD. HE'S JUST BECOME TOTALLY USELESS, HASN'T HE?!
Whitewash!!


AND WHY NOT?!
DON'T GO TO SLEEP!
I'LL HAVE IT IN A SEC-OND!
FUJITA-SAN, I FEAR YOU WILL NEVER RECOVER FROM SEEING MY INCREDIBLE DESIGN.
HA HA HA. OH, NO. ARE YOU REALLY SURE YOU WANT TO ASK ME?
CHIEF ASSIS-TANT DAN
SNEAK
かちゃ
CO-SLEEPY, A DOLL TO SLEEP WITH!!
AAAAAH
あああ
THE CHIEF ASSISTANT HATES SNAKES.
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT I'M ASKING FOR ?!


HERE IT IS ...
I'VE POURED ALL I'VE GOT INTO THIS!!
バリ—バリ
I AM A MAN WITH CERTIFICATION IN BOTH ATHLETICS AND THE FINE ARTS!
DAN-SAN, YOU CLEARLY KNOW NOTHING ABOUT DOLLS!!
WHAT EVEN WAS THAT?!
NICK
THE NICKY #1!!
Speed: 10,000 km/h
Lifting power: 500,000,000 tons
DO YOU EVEN READ KARAKURI CIRCUS?!
NICK HATES ASPARAGUS.


HA HA HA, MY SENPAI CAME UP WITH SUCH FUNNY IDEAS.
AS FOR ME, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING MUCH ...!
WHAT'RE YOU UP TO, NEWBIE ...?!
JOHNNY
SEE THAT?
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? HE CAME UP WITH THIS EVEN THOUGH HE'S JUST A ROOKIE. AND YOU TWO CAN'T EVEN MATCH THAT?!
not bad... It's kinda...
NOW TO INK IT!
EHEHEH... IT WAS AN UTTER FAILURE.
Gwaah
IT STILL IS!


のし
のし
I'LL TAKE YOU ON WITH DOLLS I'VE THOUGHT UP MYSELF!
Sigh!
むーん
OH, YOU'VE ALL LET ME DOWN ...
ガガガガガ
LIKE DRIED-UP GRASS...
WORN OUT FROM EVERYDAY LIFE... WORN OUT FROM HOME LIFE...
boo hoo ...
YOU USED OURS!!

END

からくりサーカス⑱

少年サンデーコミックス

2001年7月15日初版第1刷発行　（検印廃止）

著　者　藤田和日郎
©Kazuhiro Fujita　2001
発行者　亀井　修

印刷所　中央精版印刷株式会社

PRINTED IN JAPAN

発行所　(101-8001)東京都千代田区一ツ橋二の三の一　株式会社 小学館
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ISBN4—09—125688—0

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

The characters for Lina's name
are 馬 麗娜 (Mǎ Lìnà).

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Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.

